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that these people have. I think we have to understand that. As a believer myself I think it is easy...perhaps easier for me to understand than others. But let's consider, for example, some of the things that we are talking about that no longer appear in public schools that these individuals would like to provide their children in the Christian schools. The Bible we no longer have in the public schools, unless it is somewhere on the library shelf, but it is not incorporated in the teachings. Prayer, we no longer have prayer in schools. Formerly this was incorporated. Evolution is taught, we know that. This is a philosophy and a theory that is incorporated in public school curriculum, but they fail to realize or recognize rather the creation theory. Senator Peterson this year had a proposal that would have provided for the exposure of this theory as well to those in public schools, but it did not meet with success. Sex education is taught in the public schools. These people believe that this is the responsibility that they have as parents. These children were entrusted to them by God and they feel that it is their responsibility. I have a tendency to concur. I don't believe that this is an issue that should be used in the public schools to instruct children by means of a third party, a disinterested party. In essence, their contention is that public education is government education and I think we would all concur with that. And from what I have stated above it is an education without God. And they are just asking for the opportunity when raising their children to be able to incorporate in their teachings what they deeply feel about their heavenly Father. Now there is another point I would like to make and that is that Nebraska is only one of three states that does not provide for this particular exemption. So we are certainly in a minority. I guess the bottom line in the thrust of this particular issue is whether or not a person's religious beliefs and how they feel relative to this issue can be compromised, and I think in this particular instance that the commitment that a family has made to their heavenly Father supercedes that of the rules and regulations that have been adopted by the Department of Education in any state, the Board of Education in any state, or a school board in any particular school district. And I happen to believe that, ladies and gentlemen, very, very sincerely. When Senator Newell indicated that this is not a religious issue but rather an economic and a monetary one, I hope that you will give some consideration to the remarks that I have made relative to these Christian parents that wish to educate their children and incorporate their religious beliefs in that instruction. I believe that is all the