

responsibilities of operating a credit union. Since that time, and you have read many of those statements in the newspaper, there have been serious allegations, allegations of child abuse, in particular, which concern many of us. One of the crimes which really upset law enforcement individuals is the crime of child abuse. And I can assure you that almost without exception the law enforcement officers that I have worked with over the last 20 years during my time in the Legislature have been most vigorous in their pursuit of any indication of abuse of children. The abuses that have been described to us are so severe as to make almost any individual conscious of our extra responsibility to those individuals. Senator Chambers says we want to protect the rights of everyone who is involved here, and we will. It is also extremely important that we determine if at any time the rights of individual children, particularly foster children who might not have a family, were abused. I would also say that in every kind of an investigation that we have had in this regard there have always been telltale signs, there has been some indication, some flag, which indicates something isn't right. I'm not going to say here at this time exactly what those indications are, but I will tell you this, that there are a number of signs which cause me to be concerned that there is something inappropriate going on with the regulatory officials. The speed and the rapidity with which the claims are being processed is, I believe, commendable if all are in order and all proven valid. If they are not proven valid, then I would question why they are being processed so rapidly. It is also a question of mine, which I have requested from other individuals, there seems to be a question of about 34 million missing dollars. Those dollars, if they are missing, must certainly be traceable somewhere. Notwithstanding the fact that those dollars have not been, to my knowledge at this time, traced, the credit union insurance fund has paid off more than \$33 million of claims. One of the articles even went so far as to state that there was plenty of money in the credit union, in fact, they had paid a dividend not too long ago and so, therefore, there was no real burden upon the credit union paying these claims. That's in dark contrast, of course, to the FSIC and the FDIC, both of whom, if they're not broke, are in very dire straits. But the implication in the news stories that just because there is plenty of money on hand, we shovel it out with a scoop shovel, does not really appeal to me. I think that the investigation will be very illuminating. I am, without a doubt, convinced that there will be improprieties that will need to be addressed by this Legislature. I would hope that we will be