

vote of 33 to 10 and subsequently vetoed by the Governor after the session was over last year. And Senator Conway and I decided that we would reintroduce LB 1178 and have done so in the form of LB 159. LB 159 is, with a few slight technical changes, the same bill as was passed by the Legislature with the 23-vote majority in 1988. And what is very interesting to me is in spending three months of the legislative session last year trying...after working all summer, working with all of the interested parties in this type of legislation, I heard absolutely nothing from the insurance industry, from the political subdivisions, from the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce Association or anybody that would indicate to me that there was any opposition to the introduction...reintroduction of LB 1178 until just before the hearing on this bill when there was a news letter sent out by the Chamber of Commerce group to businesses throughout the state making allegations which are simply and utterly ridiculous about the effect of this bill. Now we could keep this bill bracketed or we could pass over it for the next 20 years. There is no perfect way of solving the problem of tort litigation. But, at some point in time, this body needs to come to grips with a system that needs to be changed.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR ASHFORD: And this...thank you.

PRESIDENT: Go ahead and finish your sentence.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Well, I have a few...no other lights on, I don't suppose.

PRESIDENT: Yes, there are.

SENATOR ASHFORD: That's all I have.

PRESIDENT: Let me ask you a question, sir. Were you objecting to the bracketing of the bill?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Well, I hadn't come to that yet. I haven't decided.

PRESIDENT: Oh. I thought I had missed something. Senator Barrett, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, I have