

will take 10 percent of that contract right up front which would be \$30,000. The athlete may only play one year, only earn \$100,000. The contract is not guaranteed if the athlete doesn't...is not able to make the team the next second and third years. Then the athlete has only made \$100,000, the fee has been \$30,000 and in effect it becomes a 30 percent fee and many of these agents want their money right out of the bonus, signing bonus that the athlete has or right out of the first year's salary. And then lastly, I think some of you have probably read about the...some of the threats and intimidation used recently by some of the agents in the Chicago area I believe it was. There was Norby Walters and Lloyd Bloom (phonetic), I believe in the past two years were accused of having threatened athletes with physical violence if they did not follow through on previous commitments.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR McFARLAND: What we're really trying to do is to protect the athlete. We're requiring the agents to register with the Secretary of State, disclose their background, disclose their qualifications, prevent them from jeopardizing the eligibility of athletes, limit them as far as the fees that they can charge and then if...and provide remedies for the athlete in the way that the athlete can sue, can void the representation agreement if the sports agent has made misrepresentations to the athlete and it gives some kind of power and authority to the athlete. You'll see on another page that I passed out to you that several states have implemented this type of legislation and you'll note that already there are 13 states that have enacted some form of legislation. Nine of those states have statutes similar to the one that we have proposed here in Nebraska. The hope is that as more and more states implement this type of legislation that the federal...that legislation will be introduced at the federal level to cover this on a countrywide basis. I would urge you to consider this bill and urge its passage. I would note that Senator Chizek and Senator Hefner have also signed on the bill and appreciate their support on this as well.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, followed by Senator Crosby, Senator Hefner and Senator Ashford. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is a bill as Senator McFarland correctly says that has been