

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: ...and so that a settlement was resolved without a lawsuit being necessary. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers is next, but may I introduce some guests of Senator Beyer. In the north balcony we have 22 students from Elkhorn High School and their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Chambers, followed by Senator Schmit and Senator Hall.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator McFarland, in his zeal and enthusiasm for his bill, did not quite get the thrust of my remarks. When I talked about the contact of a noneligible athlete, what I was arguing is that even if you have a registered agent bill, it shouldn't require a person to be registered to talk to a person who is not an eligible athlete under this bill. What they are worried about, and he keeps mentioning Mike Rozier, is the fact that sanctions can be imposed on a school if the player accepts anything of value, anything of value offered or agrees to enter into an agent relationship, agency relationship, with one of these athlete agents. That's what is concerning these people and if there were no problem of the athlete losing eligibility and cutting into the school's money-making problem, there would not...or money-making potential, there would not be such a bill as this. You don't see people bringing bills to this Legislature to help the athletes as such, other than myself, and those bills routinely are voted down. Now if we talk about the interviews on page 12 and 13, the point that I'm making is that a violation of any part of this act constitutes a crime. What I said, in addition to what Senator McFarland said about me indicating that by requiring agents to be registered, you narrow the pool and wind up with a selected group who are wealthy enough to register in every state. When you come to lines 4 through 6 on page 13, the athlete agent shall strictly adhere to the specific rules of each separate electing institution with regard to the time, place, and duration of the interviews. That is an administrative act by the university, but if an agent violates that rule of the university it is a crime. The Legislature is delegating to an institution the power to create the element of a crime. There is nothing here that even says how these rules are to be put together, that they need be