

the requirements of a \$250 registration fee. Why don't you have a problem with agents in baseball and basketball? Those questions are not asked because the people in this Legislature don't understand the money making aspects of intercollegiate athletics. In baseball you don't even have to go to college before you can go into a professional baseball contract. And they also have a farm system. So you don't have these guys being approached by these agents and anybody being concerned, because there is no question of college eligibility. If the baseball players were made to finish all of their years of college like a football player, then you'd have the agent problems. And if baseball did not have its own farm system, they would try to get the universities to keep the baseball players in school, just like in football. In basketball a player went to court on it and won and the court said that you cannot prohibit a player from entering the pro ranks until his or her eligibility is exhausted. But it applies to basketball. So, since a player does not have to stay in school, as a basketball player, until all those years have passed, you don't have the same kind or degree of problems with agents. It's only in football where there is a hellish, unjust agreement between the colleges and the professional leagues that a player in football must waste four years, at least, in school and sometimes five before he or she can go onto the pros, even though what they learn in school has nothing to do, nothing to do with their playing professional football. And you must also understand this bill deals with an infinitesimally small percentage of those who are in college, because it is only that infinitesimally small proportion that have the ability to turn pro. So in Nebraska you might have two players a year and you're bringing this ponderous, this awesome machinery of regulation and use of the criminal justice system for that small a number of people so that it can appear that Nebraska has so much concern for these players, in reality it doesn't. I've never heard Senator McFarland or anybody else in any of the states where they have these bills try to make it a crime for these college presidents who engage in illegal fund raising, illegal inducements to players. Even the Governor of one state got involved. He doesn't say make it a crime for a coach to illegally induce a high school player to come to a school. The high school player is more vulnerable than the college person whose been there four or five years, yet they won't make it a crime...

PRESIDENT: One minute.