

the purpose of 681 is to provide some basic consumer protections for consumers who enter into rental agreements. The type of agreement that we're talking about is the businesses that you've heard of that are rent-to-own type of industries. They've been sprouting up right now primarily in Omaha and Lincoln, but they will be...I think Grand Island has one or two also. But they will be expanding to other towns as the industry grows. So it's types of businesses that will rent a couch, or TV, or some other type of consumer item with the purpose that at some point the consumer will gain ownership. It's more expensive to the consumer to do it this way, but it's also a practical industry. This is not and should not be interpreted as an attack on the industry because the industry is needed. The people who are typically attracted to this type of arrangement are unsophisticated individuals who may have some bad credit problems or don't have the cash to make a purchase and have to use this type of an arrangement. What LB 681 would do is primarily...its primary thrust is disclosure, it's to require the industry to disclose to the consumer exactly what that consumer is getting involved in. The nature of the disclosure is not a real difficult type of disclosure, it's things that you would expect would be done and as a matter of fact are being done in the industry by quite a few of the businesses. It is intended to disclose some of the items that have to be disclosed, a description of the leased property, the number, amount and timing of payments necessary to acquire ownership, total amounts of the payments, initial and periodic payments, a statement to the consumer letting the consumer know that he or she will not own that merchandise until all payments have been made. Includes a statement that the total amounts to include late charges, administrative charges, delivery charges, et cetera, a statement of who is responsible for the property in the event it's lost, stolen or destroyed, an indication if the property is new or used. In this industry it's not always new property that is being leased, and I think the consumer is entitled to know that. There is also a couple of limitations on the industry. The primary limitation is on prohibiting a charge for early termination of the lease. These leases are generally a short-term type of lease. The payments are generally done on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis, depending on the income of the consumer. The other limitation on the rental establishment is limitation of administrative fees, doesn't prohibit these fees, it merely limits the administrative fees, delivery fees and late fees. Finally, it prohibits other statements being included in a consumer agreement. For example, a provision