

with the matter, the introducers of the bill which include myself and Senator Landis and Senator Crosby and a number of other members of this Legislature, to be reasonable and fair we do need to reject the committee amendments and deal with this on an up-front, across-the-board concept, and that is exactly the concept we need to keep in mind. This bill is saying this state made a guarantee of \$30,000. We've partially repaid the Commonwealth people, not anywhere close to the \$30,000. We need to take a further step to bring them up to the \$30,000 guarantee and the other two institutions that have received nothing need likewise to be dealt with in that same fair and equitable across-the-board fashion. So to deal with the basic concept of meeting the \$30,000 guarantee, you must reject the committee amendments and deal with all these institutions fairly and similarly. And so with that, I'd ask for your help as well to reject the committee amendments and also give the rest of my time to Senator Landis.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, since its inception the Commonwealth disaster has prompted a great deal of editorial comment in this state and it's significant to understand that this issue has a statewide constituency. It has the editorial support of a number of newspapers representing a wide variety of public opinion in this state. Among those papers which have editorialized or have spoken on behalf of this issue and suggested that the state should honor its claim and its moral obligations to depositors of Commonwealth, included in that list of papers are the Alliance Times-Herald, the Beatrice Daily Sun, the Columbus Telegram, the Crete News, the Central City Nonpareil, the David City Banner-Press, the Elgin Review, Fremont Tribune, Grand Island Independent, Hastings Tribune, Hemingford Ledger, the Holdrege Citizen, the Kearney Daily Hub, McCook Gazette, Nebraska City News-Press and also papers in Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, O'Neill, Pierce, Polk, St. Edwards, Scottsbluff, Seward, South Sioux City, Superior, Syracuse, Wahoo, Wakefield, West Point, Wisner and York. In other words, as is so often portrayed quietly off the floor by my colleagues, this is not a Lincoln issue, nor with the introduction of the other two institutions, a Lincoln/Omaha issue. There are voices from across this state that say when this state allows its name to be put on a guarantee and permit its name, not permit, actually require its name to be affixed as the part of the seal of when one enters upon the doorway of an