

in other instances? One of the reasons why people lose confidence in government is because of our willingness to accept this kind of error and simply pay the bill without holding someone accountable, without trying to collect what is justifiably taxpayer money for repairs. Maybe the Appropriations Committee did the right thing. I certainly, as I said earlier, do not believe that you can just take it out of the university budget and expect them to live with it. I think that if it needs to be rebuilt, we probably have to do what was proposed by the Appropriations Committee. I do not think that if it stood there for 13 years that it does not mean that we should not try to determine, first of all, if it's necessary to rebuild it. Second, if you rebuild it, is it guaranteed? Third, will it be satisfactory? Fourth, who was responsible and how do you...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...collect from those individuals? Without that kind of investigation, ladies and gentlemen, I'm going to tell you something else, investigations are difficult to inaugurate and very difficult to carry out because you usually have more people covering up than you have uncovering and particularly where large amounts of money or very important people are involved, and I want to emphasize that. I think, however, that to just meekly accept the premise that we must rebuild the structure without calling people to account who were responsible is a mistake. I want to make one comment to that and that is this, we should not, and I think this with respect to the Appropriations Committee probably weighed very heavily on them, but we should not endanger one single individual by whatever we do. And I would like to hear some more comments on that and I'm sure that members of the Appropriations Committee will comment in that regard.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: If the...if the structure test endangers individuals, then we ought to consider that. If the delay in the repairs will endanger individual citizens, we ought to consider that. But if we can be assured by engineers that the test can be conducted and that blame can be assessed and properly allocated, then I think we should proceed in that manner.