

the same way that we did Commonwealth, and then I have no problem with the proposal. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely is next, but may I please introduce some guests, please, of Senator Ashford. We have 50 students in the fourth grade from Harrison School in Omaha, District 6, with their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Wesely, followed by Senator Dierks.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I would rise in opposition to the Goodrich amendment and again encourage all of you to support the amendment as presented by Senator Landis and the rest of us that co-sponsored it. We're really talking about a fundamental concept of justice here, people that lost their savings, whether they be in Omaha, Lincoln or around the state, people that had money in these institutions. Losing that money, we need to be good and return the money as the federal government is trying to do with the savings and loan crisis. It costs money. It's an unfortunate circumstance, but to do otherwise is an injustice, and injustice is what we've had too much of in this issue for too long. To do what Senator Goodrich is saying, and to eliminate Commonwealth out of the bill really does cause us great anxiety because that is the real big problem. The \$20 million figure that we're talking about, or the 33 million here, obviously, shows how much of a loss these people have suffered. And what we need to do is bring all of them up to the same point, which is to reimburse their principal. This takes out the interest. Senator Korshoj and others, Senator Nelson and I think others raised the issue about the interest payment. That's out of this amendment. This would only return all the depositors in all those institutions up to the amount that they had invested and lost five years, six years ago, whenever that took place, and not reimburse them for the interest. Now that is fair, that is equitable, that is just, and that is the way we should go. To take Commonwealth out is to deny that justice that they deserve and to treat them unfairly, I think. But to be fair we ought to bring all of them up to reimburse them fully and get this issue behind us, finish the issue off, and not have to go through this year after year, after year. This is our chance to finish the job and complete this issue and to bring justice to these people. I'll leave the rest of my time, Senator Schimek, I'll give you the rest of my time to you, if you'd like. I gave the rest of my time to Senator Schimek.