

is, is that this is something that's long overdue. It's a wound that has not yet healed and we're jabbing it one more time, we're breaking that scab and I'm afraid that if we don't get it done this year that there are no guarantees that it will ever heal. Now for that point I guess I probably will listen to my head and support the bracket motion, but I also think that should the bracket motion fail and we read the bill today, that it ought to pass and it ought to pass at the expense of anything that I put into the budget or anybody else put in the budget or the budget I guess in its entirety because this is clearly of the highest priority I think for the state. It's not an issue of paying back the Commonwealth people, it's not an issue of paying back the State Securities people or American Savings. I think it's an issue of how we are perceived and how the State of Nebraska is perceived not by those outside the state, but by those inside the state. What are we made of? What do we think of ourselves? I think this clearly is the barometer by which we judge ourselves, not by how others judge us because I'm not really worried about what other people think of me, anyway, and that's clear by my actions from time to time here on the floor. But the point here is this is clearly one of those right things to do and I guess if I know that when we delay it, it means that we'll be able to work out a payback plan like we have on some other things, extended appropriation over a number of years and we can get it done in 1990, then great, let's go ahead and do it. But if the bracket motion fails I sure hope that the 27 votes or so that were there on Select File are there again because this takes priority, I think, over anything that we've done and I think it's unfortunate that we have it before us on the 89th day. It probably should have been an issue that we dealt with on the first day. With that, Mr. President, I would urge you to bracket the bill until next year.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Scofield, please, followed by Senator Ashford.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President and members, I rise reluctantly to support this bracket motion for all the reasons that all of you support Commonwealth have used, but facts are facts. There is a saying I remember from the first political science course I ever took and that is, even the dumbest politician can count, and Senator Landis is not a dumb politician. So even the smart politician in this case has got to conclude that this issue may well be in trouble. It shouldn't be, but it might be. And I'm not willing to take that