

that concern. But, otherwise, I guess I am not sure we have any other choice but to go with this resolution since we are out of time to deal with it in any other substantial way, but, ultimately, the responsibility comes back to us and we will have to deal with it, and I am disappointed that we aren't able to find any more solutions than we have at this point.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hannibal, would you like to close on your resolution, please?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Yes, Mr. President, I would. I realize that this is the final day and realize that resolutions generally are more of a lighter nature. This resolution, however, is not. This is a very substantive resolution, and I appreciate that Senator Schmit, Senator Wesely, and others have pointed out that this is a significant resolution. There were two major factors, if you would read the resolution, and I would urge that you do so, and what we have tried to do with the resolution is point out the salient facts surrounding this issue. There were two items that for me were very important items that aren't necessarily addressed but they are addressed in the resolution, not in so many words, and I believe I would speak for the committee and probably for the executive side as well and suggest to you that we have a contract that we believe is a contract for two years starting August 1st. However, that is in question. It is pointed out that that is in question by the carrier. There is no dispute, at least on our part, that there has been and there may be continuing financial losses under the terms of this contract, but the overriding issue for me, and I believe the committee, is that, number one, if you have a contract, we cannot take a position in the state that if it isn't going to work out come back and see us, we will talk to you further. Number two, the contract is a three-party contract as far as we are concerned. One is the State of Nebraska; number two, it is the state employees of Nebraska; and, number three, it is the insurance carrier, and that if we are going to reopen this process, it is going to be a three-party opening, that the state employees must recognize that, and, as a matter of fact, have recognized that, and I applaud the state employees efforts to realize that this is a three-party contract. It is a three-party problem that we have to address, and we will do that, and they want to partake, and we ask that they partake, and I think we have come to at least a very good understanding, if not a resolution. This particular resolution. I think, is an appropriate response for us, especially in light of all the