

that, yes, they passed it because it is fair, it is simpler, it is more just than the standard that we deal under. The standard that we are...we have here in Nebraska is outdated, we're in the dark ages as far as civil litigation in this area is concerned. If you consider that, think about why all the other states have been in favor of this type of legislation, I think you can only reach a conclusion that this comparative fault standard would be a drastic improvement over the standard we have here in Nebraska today. I think it would be fair for all parties concerned and I would urge you, if you don't know, if you're uninformed, think about that result and vote for the bill, and at least get it on Select File so that when you come back to Select File you can read about it and not just listen to the people or the lobbyists who try to pull you one way or another, sit down, look at the information you have in your files and read about it, and I think if you do you'll find out that it is a fair and equitable system, and it's one that we should have in Nebraska, we should have had it many years ago. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Smith, please, followed by Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the body, to a degree Senator McFarland is right. We are, many of us, uninformed. But, Senator McFarland, I take offense at your inference that we just, you know, that we're not making any effort to try to know what's going on here and so that's the reason why we should vote for this bill. I think that we need to ask questions. I will tell you that it's very difficult for those of us that are not attorneys to be able to ask the kinds of questions we should be asking those of you that are strongly standing on the floor supporting this bill. As attorneys you're in a position, yes, to be able to understand this issue a lot better than we are. But I can tell you something else, when I look at this sheet, the committee statement, I can see that the proponents of the bill were the trial attorneys, and the opponents of the bill were the defense attorneys. So it may have something to do with which side of the issue you stand on and where you represent whether you support this bill or not, not just whether you're a stupid other senator in the body that doesn't know anything. And I would be willing to debate some other issues that I don't think you're very well informed on any other time than this right now. I'm not here to debate whether I'm smarter than you are or not. What I'm here to do is try to figure out the answers to this problem that has been brought to