purchase either the branches of a failed S & L, or an S & L that is rehabilitating itself by selling off its branches to stop being sick and to get well. Now what that means is this, for the S & L to be on the market, it either has to be a branch or the entire S & L which has failed; or it has to be the branch of an S & L that is rehabilitating itself to being well by selling off part of its branches in order to meet capitalization standards that the federal government has placed on it as a plan of rehabilitation. So with respect to healthy S & Ls, this is not meant to be the sale of those institutions. Who will pick up the slack? Who will buy these S & Ls? Some of them might just be closed, it is possible that they might just be liquidated, if there is no market, but the operation is, in fact, a loss, taking a loss, you might just close the branch. That might help you improve your cash flow and rehabilitate yourself. That could happen, but if that doesn't happen, if it is sold, who is going to buy it? Well, the banks in those towns are most likely to buy it. Why? Because if they don't buy it, a healthy S & L may purchase it, in which case they will have a healthy S & L in their town taking deposits, or another large banking institution outside the state may buy it, thereby, putting a new financial institution presence in their town. For a small town bank, the best strategy is actually twofold, hope that it would get liquidated and go away, or purchase it and maintain your financial hold on the marketplace. You'd want to keep other institutions out, you'd want to buy. Does the State of Nebraska get involved? No, we are a guarantor in no way. There is not a dollar of state money involved here in any of these transactions. To underwrite this whole process is a federal bailout that involves tax dollars but that is not an issue in 956.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, David. And the other question I had, Senator Landis, would be...again, I was briefly reading through as best I could. If a bank, for example, bought out a rehabilitating S & L or a failed branch, then the way I read the bill, then, the S & L then would actually be incorporated into the bank? The bank could not have a S & L subsidiary as part of the bank. It would be merged into the bank, and I guess my question would be, again, on the competition factor between S & Ls and regular banks, how would this affect the competition? For example, if I have a healthy bank and a rehabilitating S & L, it would be in my best interest for the healthy bank to step in and buy the S & L because it effectively takes out that competition, per se, and would you