

a bank in a lot of different ways and you can steal from people and, in fact, get away with it in some cases. This amendment, which I intend to withdraw by the way, simply would have provided a replacement for the bill as we now know it with legislation that would provide a pool into which the money developed from the lending...lending source, be that a savings and loan or a bank, would go into a pool out of which would be paid the subcontractors and the suppliers for their labor, for their material and for their time. After that, whatever is left belongs and should go to the builder. I think it's a sad, sad thing in this country when we have a system of business that provides this kind of thievery and we should do something about it. We shouldn't joke about it, we shouldn't think that we should be willing to tolerate it. We talk about the savings and loan companies going down and going bankrupt, I got to tell you, a lot of people got money out of those savings and loans before they went bankrupt and stole it as well. Nobody should have the right to borrow money on the pretext of paying other people and then steal it. I intend to introduce this legislation again next year, but I did want to bring to your attention the reason that I got so concerned with legislation that involved builders and contractors and suppliers and codes and ordinances was that there is a lot of things we can correct in this country and there is a lot of things we can correct in this state and one of those things should be a process in the statutes that prevents this kind of business, this kind of thievery from being able to take place. Maybe the pool isn't the right process, but we have to develop a process to prevent people from doing business this way. It's a wrong thing to do. It is no credit to anybody. It happens more often, in some cases, with certain contractors than with others, but in any case it happens. So I just want to bring to your attention that this, in fact, takes place. It happens more often than you might think. Fun and games is played all the time with contractors and to subcontractors and suppliers not only in the process of construction where auctions take place, where a subcontractor can give a price to a contractor and that price can be used if they think that subcontractor is a legitimate contractor and shopped around to see if they can get somebody else to do it cheaper. I know that to replace the bill with this would have been inappropriate, but I thought if the bill wasn't amended, the most important thing we could do is not to worry about an Omaha, Nebraska, whether we had given authority back to contractors, in some cases that did the things I already mentioned, to do even more things on their own. But maybe to change that legislation to something like