

the accountability process and standards apply to all of us, especially those who receive state funds and, to be completely frank, make a heck of a lot more money than most constitutional officeholders, and especially state senators. I think it makes some sense. I think it would be interesting for us to consider this, and I think it's important for us to consider it. I'll try to answer any questions you might have.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Withem. Excuse me, the Clerk has an announcement. Correction. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay, thank you. It's just that every time before I get up to speak the Clerk usually has announcements, so I understand why you would have expected that. It's kind of automatic. I understand what Senator Lynch wants to do. I think I understand what he wants to do, and I agree with him that we need to determine maybe more about what some of our employees of the State of Nebraska are doing. I know Senator Lynch has particular concern regarding the University of Nebraska. But I don't think his amendment does that. And it may be based somewhat on Senator Wesely's erroneous interpretation of his own amendment a while ago that we're carrying forward here. If we were to adopt Senator Lynch's amendment, it would not provide that if, for instance, a university professor got a trip to Thailand, it would not require that professor to divulge that. This amendment would not do that. What this amendment would do would be nothing as far as that particular trip goes, unless that trip were by a lobbyist or a principal, because this entire section doesn't require you, as a legislator, to report anything. It requires the...requires the lobbyist and the principal to divulge that. So what you might end up with is that if a lobbyist would give a Christmas present to a friend of his, or even a relative of his that is an employee of the Department of Roads, that lobbyist would have to report that. And I don't think that's what we want to do. So I understand what Senator Lynch may want to do, and share his concerns. But his amendment would not require the individual receiving the trip to report that. What his amendment would do would be require the lobbyist, if they gave a Christmas present to a member of...an employee of the State of Nebraska, it's totally unrelated to what that lobbyist was lobbying on, it would require that lobbyist to report that. So I'm not going to support Senator Lynch's amendment, because I don't think it does what he would like to see it do. So thank, you.