

accountability to our citizens. You know, the state is presently in a state of financial stress, witness our budget constraints. I think it's more important than ever that we provide financial accountability to our constituents and I think this amendment will do that. It says that you have to come back in two years to bring this bill before us again and let us debate the issue and see whether it has done what we've intended it to do. I feel very sorry for Nebraskans today. They've got to be reeling in the wake of developments this week. They arrested Ray Peery and the revelation of the loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars and maybe even in the millions of funds from the compact commission, and before that there was the problem with Mr. Johnson and the Commonwealth depositors. He absconded with their dollars, and prior to that, in the same area, the Copples in their problems with Commonwealth. I think it's time for this body to provide the citizens of our state with the feeling that we have some integrity and some ethics and that we are willing to show them that we're responsible. I think this amendment will show them that we're responsible, that we are going to go along with this type legislation again this year, but that they have to come back in two years and prove to us that this has been effective. I think it's irresponsible for us to put this in law and keep it there, ad infinitum. We owe it to our constituents to provide this accountability. I didn't support LB 89 two years ago and most of you know why. I felt, for one thing we talked about this morning, that some of the teachers who really needed the pay weren't going to get it, but in retrospect, many of the teachers in my district did get some of that money. Their own teacher peers saw to it that those teachers who would not have gotten the money under the provisions of the bill did get some. They divided that among their teachers. One of the other things I had problems with was the fact we were losing accountability from the standpoint that we are providing more state dollars. It looked to me like this gave us an insight into socialized education which I have problems with. I think we lost some of our local control with it. I'm willing to bite the bullet and accept those things. I know that in my particular district, with the advent we received something over \$300,000 and that has to translate into some sort of property tax relief I think for my district. So I'm willing to go along with the legislation this year but I do think that for us to be accountable to our constituents we need to provide a sunset and require that the teachers come back and explain how good it was in two years and if it's that good then we can give it to them again two years later. I hope that you will support