

me that in government we always seem to find some excuse to spend existing funds and to justify new funds.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I know that this situation here will be looked upon as a major investment in a new piece of equipment. Other entities will want to follow. I would dare say that most of the offices in this state, in some areas, have far more computer equipment than does Mr. Breslow. I'm going to support the amendment and I hope it passes, and then I hope you'll support my amendment which will return the amount of money you need here, tenfold, to the treasury.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Thank you, Senator Schmit. Before we move to our next speaker, I'd like to announce that we have some guests of Senator Owen Elmer. In the south balcony we have 27 eighth graders from Arapahoe, Nebraska, and their sponsor. Would you folks please rise and let us welcome you to the Legislature. Thank you for coming. Next speaker is Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. Again, I rise in support of the amendment. The issue was raised with regard to, I guess, the extensive discussion that we had on the budget on General File, Senator Moore. And I must have missed that. But in this case the issue clearly is one of do you want to give the office, that really has the job description to deal with the auditing function, the proper tools to I guess function up to the current level that we expect of other agencies, and yet they have control and oversight requirements that none of the other agencies that I see on this list that had been passed out for computer requests and some that hadn't even been funded. I mean it really is penny wise and dollar foolish not to deal with this amendment and give the equipment necessary to function in a twenty-first century capability to the auditor's office. That's all it says, is that, look, we want this individual to function as professionally and as economically as possible. If you want to just throw more money at the office, sure, then maybe you ought to take a look at the issue of number of FTEs that you're going to allow. But that's not what this does. This says we're going to make a one-time expenditure, we're going to allow them the capability to upgrade, because we expect from them the kind of work product to tell us where we're losing money, and to deal with issues like savings institutions that have cost us millions