

bucks. So that scrap, that value there is questionable. The rail they may or may not put in, bigger sized rail. Smaller rail weighs less per three foot section, and you will gain on your scrap value, if, indeed, steel prices are still up in the air, or still at the figure that we're projecting...they were projecting. But the biggest...one of the biggest costs in rehab is labor. Railway work, especially on a short line like this, is labor intensive. There's a large charge there that would be labor. So my problem with the guarantee that I always was hoping would be there with the scrap value is that I'm just real nervous with it. Why is the CNW doing this as a favor to Nebraska when they proved to be an unreliable corporation. When we're trying to deal straight and up front with them, they have proven they are not reliable from the way they have dealt with Senator Lamb and Senator Wickersham and the Governor and the people of this area. They have proven to be unreliable in the way they diverted their traffic to shut this line down. They are not what I consider a good corporate citizen. So all the what-ifs have finally hit home with me. But I don't want...I want to vote...I want to retain the policy that it is something that we should look at, it is viable, we should look at it. And that, I might add, is against a lot of rail unions thoughts in this matter. A lot of Senator Wickersham's constituents are very concerned on this step, that what it means in possibility of railroads in the future making that quicker step towards abandonment, if they know the state is there. That's bothering a lot of railway workers. But for me, I think it's a good policy to look at. But right now, with this money, I'm not comfortable, especially with the Chicago-Northwestern Railroad. When I get comfortable with their corporate leadership, and that they are, indeed, doing something in trying to be a good corporate citizen, then I can probably support the funding. But I can't do it now. Yesterday I talked to Senator Wickersham's staff, and I told them I was a little uncomfortable, I was probably still going to support the A bill. But as I've been looking at the figures and mulling it over, I can't do it at this time. And I don't want to take a lot of time on this. But since I think it's an important policy, but I would like to have time to get better commitments out of CNW and other folks, I will run a vote on this. I'd like Senator Lamb or Wickersham to respond on how this might affect the process. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Madam Chair and members. Well,