

wonder if some of the things that we do couldn't have been done better? Don't we think sometimes that we should have done a better job of looking at our employees and questioning them a little more about certain things that have happened? I think that I just have to revert to the one thing and that is what are we going to do for our students? I still think that the teachers, in retrospect, will believe that this bill is good legislation and that it provides not only school boards and parents and students with protection, but it also provides them, the teachers themselves, with that protection. And I'm sorry that people feel that fingerprints are naughty. I don't agree with that. I think that's part of our society today, and it's unfortunate perhaps, but that's where it is. We have to look for that student, protecting that student that will be molested by someone who fell through the cracks, and this legislation I think will pick up...will provide sealant for some of those cracks. I have no desire to pick on a teacher or a noncertified employee. I was on the school board for 15 years in our district. I know of teachers in the State of Nebraska, and I think many of you do too, I had one in my school district that we didn't find out about until he left there, a number of years after that, who had many, what's the word, dalliances with girls in his classes, in one school system as many as four, and he kept escaping, got through the cracks; agreed to change schools if the school board wouldn't prosecute him. Now is teaching in a school in California, doing the same exact thing that he did in Nebraska. He did it in my school system. They find out about it afterwards. He left his wife and two grown daughters and married one of his students, who was actually younger than his two daughters; took her to California with him. Now, if I can help to prevent one of those kind of things from happening then I'm willing to do it, and this is, I think, the legislation that will help us with that. Just once, but we'll do it more than once. We'll do it many times more than one, help those students. And I know that the teachers should be satisfied that it's going to help them too because it's going to weed out the chaff, and I think there's some of that that's necessary too. I know that it's necessary in my profession. I don't think that we're perfect. Our profession is graded all the time. We have to go through education. We have to get a license in order for us to sell controlled substances. We have to be licensed to do that. We're subject to a background check for that. I don't think there's any phase of our society who can actually exist today without some sort of responsibility to the society that it serves and this is why I believe that this type of legislation