

constitutional. I remember that opinion very firmly. So, again, I support this resolution, but I echo what Senator Wesely and Senator Schimek said. I don't like to hold out any hopes to the people who have been waiting for so long to have this resolved in an effective way. If anything can be found to help them, I will always support anything that will help bring it to a final resolution. But, again, I just...I feel really chagrined that we just talk, and talk, and talk about it and can't seem to finish it up. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: There's no one else wishing to speak on the issue so I'll recognize Senator Schmit for closing.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam Chairman and members, I'll speak very briefly. The resolution is very simple and it's important. I think we can all understand what it says and I think that, as had been referred to by several legislators, and agree with Senator Beutler. In response to Senator Haberman's question, this resolution encourages the Governor and the Attorney General to explore any legal or constitutional method of reimbursement of depositors for legal obligations. The lottery income, if and when that becomes a reality, is a gift and it is totally separate from the legal obligation. We're only asking, very simple, you might call it a last-ditch effort for the Governor and the Attorney General, who have both expressed their concerns to me for some kind of resolution to this problem if a legal and constitutional method can be found and if legal obligations are there. And Senator Beutler has touched upon the fact that instances have occurred since the closing of Commonwealth which raises the question of a legal obligation, totally different from any kind of gift enterprise that we might want to impose. We recognize the collapse of the industrial bank system in Nebraska caused great tragedy in this state and we are the one state, and I think that is what Senator Crosby refers to, we are the one state where we did not reimburse our depositors and we ought to all be embarrassed because of it. We ought to make it clear that we've attempted, through the various legal means and legislative means, to reimburse the depositors and we have had difficulty doing so. But finally we recognize that any monetary settlement has to be done very carefully within constitutional limits and the statutory limits we are under and specifically