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had been saying. And I said, now, General, did you or your recruiters make promises that bind this Legislature into the future from making changes in the program? And he said, well, I don't think so. I said, well, if you aren't sure about the past, let's be real clear as to this time forward. If you sit down with somebody and you promise them a government program or benefit which binds future Legislatures, let me tell you that I think you are way off base and far beyond your legitimate authority to do so. You're entitled to offer them the programs that we authorize as a Legislature. You do not have the power to bind us to make promises for the future. You can characterize the law, but if you characterize the law and promise that it will stay in that effect, you're making a promise that only the Legislature can make and you are far beyond your authority. He said, I understand that and we will not do that. To the extent that we will tell our people coming into the guard, we will identify what the law says, we will make no promise of the future. That understanding was clearly made between the National Guard and the Nebraska Legislature when I served in Jerry Conway's position as the Chairman of the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. In other words, if such a promise has been made, it has been made after notice has been given to the National Guard that they should make no promise which binds this Legislature beyond whatever its contemporary obligations are, subject to the power of change at the direction of this body, not the National Guard. Now, I understand the sense of equity in which somebody starts down some kind of trail, and with some set of expectations, and they get changed. Let me tell you what I would support because I won't support the Schimek amendment. I would support an amendment that says somebody who is now in the guard and using the program could continue to use it at 75 percent to the end of the degree program that they are now on. But if you are in the guard and not using the program but start using it in 1993 or 1994, I don't think that this promise is binding. As a matter of fact, the promise, in fact, is not binding and the National Guard knows it. And if they've said anything to the contrary, they are renegeing on the understanding the Adjutant General of the Nebraska National Guard gave this body, to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee a number of years ago. They are on sound notice that that is the status of the law, and what I think their appropriate obligation is.

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.