

wouldn't let that stand in any other area of the law that I can think of. Now, it's true, another bill could be brought back next year, but Senator Maurstad is accurate; we have the same Judiciary Committee next year that we have this year. If the Judiciary Committee wanted to work on the bill, it could have been held. A study could have been conducted. And I think if it's not held and if it's killed, there's a fairly slim chance that you will be able to come back and get a bill out of there next year. So I think Senator Maurstad's approach is the correct one if the issue is going to be discussed. I'm not saying the bill is perfect in the form that it's in. I think it perhaps needs some study and some work and some additional compromise, perhaps, but I believe that it's a start. I believe that it provides a good forum for discussion and that discussion will occur if we bring the bill out on the floor. Let me...let me give you an example of what can happen to a political subdivision when you have...when you have a large liability occur and if it would occur when you're not even at fault, how devastating it could be. I worked with a school district that had a bus accident and, as a result of that, and as a result of not having enough insurance coverage to cover the problem, and the school bus driver was at fault, so that's a given. The insurance company that had the coverage went belly-up, so there was a shortage of insurance coverage. The school district...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...the school district actually had no money to pay teachers. The board of...the school board all resigned. They had to...the school was run for a temporary period of time by a representative of the Department of Education for the State of Nebraska until the...while the lawsuit went to court and until it could be settled. The school is still paying six, seven, eight years later. They levied to their max as much as they could under lid to pay the claim. But this could happen to a city. This could happen to a small town. You know, it's easier for Omaha to handle a 2 million dollar claim than it is for Prague to handle 500,000, for heaven sakes, or 750,000. The policy in the statutes now makes no sense. It makes no sense.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Vrtiska.