

his amendment, that if we're going to have this as an important aspect of our laws in Nebraska, then perhaps it's good enough for all other areas of the Constitution and all of those other rights that should be protected. Interesting concept, and I think he makes a good point. I think he raises an issue that is certainly valid and one that we need to think about as we're continuing with this discussion. I would also take this time to mention that I don't know if members of the body are aware that a letter was sent to the U.S. Congress by the Attorney General of New Mexico and was signed by 32 other Attorney Generals in opposition to this type of legislation at the federal level and also at the state level. I will quote a bit of that letter and it was from Attorney General Tom Udall, the Attorney General of New Mexico and then signed by the other 32 Attorney Generals across the country. Part of it states that these laws would greatly increase the cost of government, creating costly new bureaucracy, paperwork requirements with no corresponding benefits. I would call the members' attention to today's World-Herald in which there is an article about Governor Nelson being concerned with the ethanol bill that we just passed in this legislative body and the way that was funded. And the Governor is saying that he doesn't want increased funding coming across his desk and that he isn't likely to sign into law those bills that we passed with increased funding. And at the same time the Governor is saying we need to streamline government, we need to have smaller, more efficient government and the people of this state I think are saying that very same thing. And, while they are saying that, we are creating with LB 168 additional workload for existing agencies. We are giving them a workload and we're not even defining how that workload is going to be done. We're not defining how they carry that out. We're not giving them rules and regulations to carry it out and then we're expecting them to be able to do it. They're going to have to have additional expertise. They're going to have to take additional staff time. They are not equipped to do what we're preparing them to do and yet we're going to dump this in their laps and say, here it is, take care of it.

**SPEAKER WITHEM:** One minute.

**SENATOR PREISTER:** I submit to you that, as the Governor is saying, we should not increase the workload, we should not increase bureaucracy, we should not increase additional funding, that we have legislation here that we don't even know what the cost is going to be. We don't even have a decent fiscal impact