

this contract early on, and I received the second signature page from the information that was given to us by the Governor's Office during the Government hearing. It concerns me greatly that it appears that the signature of the attorney, who okayed this contract, was predated. It is dated August 11th, and has his name on it, and the other signature page does not have his name or the date on it, and there are two signatures on that. They are obviously the exact same signatures in the exact same place on the contract that are dated from August 12th. So I think we should at least put in language that some...someone of a legal profession from these departments should at least look over these contracts before they supposedly sign and bind the entire State of Nebraska and our taxpayers to \$6 million worth of contingency fees. I think those are all safeguards that we should have language in this piece of legislation and I hope it passes forward, and Senator Brashear's amendment strikes any of that language from this bill, so I will not support the Brashear amendment. I think these are legitimate concerns about this contract, in particular, and about future contracts that Nebraska may enter into, and just one comment as to Senator Wesely's comments, and any one like...who has like mind on the monies that we had to get to...the federal money that we had to get to before other states used it up. I guess with the future of this nation and the children who are going to be trying to pay for...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...the tremendous debt that we have forced...and are forcing upon them, it makes me a little ill to think that there are individuals in government out there who feel like they have to get to the money before anybody else can take it for anyone else, and that we haven't gotten our share of it, and those kind of statements really disturb me knowing that we have such a huge federal debt in this country that our children, my children, are going to be forced to try to pay for, and that kind of an attitude just disturbs me greatly. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Witek. Before recognizing the next speaker, who will be Senator Will, would like to ask the members of the Legislature to maybe stand at ease one moment and let us make some introductions. Once a year we are very pleased to have as our guests down here former members of this body, who have served in the past, and I think probably coming down on days like today, they are pleased to know that they are