

but they distribute it. We have a variety of other records, everything from a contract we have with a publishing company for our state statutes to our court opinions. Department of Health has information that we by statute require them to keep. DMV has those records a Senator Bromm is correct in the way he frames that, but what he didn't tell you also was that you still can go get that DMV record for \$2. You get a hard copy, you go and get it. Electronically if you want it, there's only one place to go and that's correct, that's a \$3 charge and the system works rather well. Now the insurance companies are miffed because they had a good deal going because for \$2 they could get their electronic records on tape and that's what this dispute is all about. That is in court as well. But all of that aside, Senator Bromm brings a discussion about what do we do with public records? And your choices follow like this. One is that we can distribute them for free. Everybody, everything is free. That's going to require us to set up and probably put computer services into each different agency who will have their own set of things. Quite frankly, the Legislature is far ahead of most every state agency in our computer abilities. It's because we have good people, we have good staff, and this Legislature, through a variety of members, has taken the initiative to do that. The other option is to not spend the money for extra people like down at the Department of Roads for computer services or to hand out products, but to develop a system and sell it to an on-line company, whether it's Nebraska(at) Online, CompuServe, America Online or whatever. Your third option is to make a profit and say, look, government keeps these records. You pay as taxpayers to gather the records, but we're now talking about charging a fee and making a profit for the distribution of that information, different issue. And so what I like about the Bromm amendment from a policy point of view is that we want to identify all the sources of information. That's good. Two is...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...we begin to develop a policy about do we make a profit, do we give it for free or do we privatize it? That discussion will occur in the Bromm amendment. What I am very hesitant about is for us to begin to backtrack. I don't like necessarily the way that this occurred with the Library Commission. But quite frankly the company that got it responded to a request for a proposal. They followed the law. They