

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: So they're going to...they'll have the chance to review it, and if they don't like the quality of service, then they have the right to terminate the contract?

SENATOR CROSBY: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Madam President, could I ask just for his response, please.

SENATOR CROSBY: Go ahead and respond, Senator Bromm.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you.

SENATOR BROMM: I should think they would have certainly a right to ask that changes be made to improve the quality. I don't think we're giving the power to terminate the contract.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Pirsch, followed by Chambers, Preister, Withem, Coordsen, Hillman, Fisher, and Kristensen, Beutler.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Madam President. Members of the Legislature, I had star...or I had finished, when I last spoke, talking about the Minnesota experience. And I want to point out that they, in 1994, at the time Senator Preister introduced a bill and then later on in the year when bid proposals were being taken in Nebraska without legislative awareness or the policy being discussed in the Legislature, in 1994, in Minnesota, the Government Information Access Council was created by their State Legislature. And I talked about the principles that I think would be certainly applicable to Nebraska and things that we should think about, and that this task force that's being created in these amendments should think about. Primary is that access to government information is a fundamental right of all citizens in a democracy. Secondly, that responsive provision of information access and the dissemination of government information are essential functions of government. Thirdly, public access to government information shall be free, and any charge for copies shall not exceed marginal cost. And I think we have tried to follow that kind of philosophy up until this new dissemination of information. Four, all citizens, regardless of geographic, physical, cultural, socioeconomic status, or other barriers shall have equitable and affordable access to government information. And, fifth, the Minnesota