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comfort for those members of this body that feel it's a giant step to give a commission such as this the ability to fine. We want to be sure that they're, as sure as we can, that they're right and they're justified in levying a fine. And so, yes, it is part of the exchange of balance here and for those reasons I just stated as well.

SENATOR BEUTLER: If you were dealing with DEQ, for example, who can levy large fines but they do have to go through the district court, as I recall,...

SENATOR BROMM: Right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...if they go through the district court, is their standard of evidence preponderance of the evidence or clear and convincing evidence?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Don Pederson, on the Bromm amendment.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, I would like to engage just for a few moments Senator Bromm in this matter. First of all, I appreciate what you're doing in this and I concur in the proposal that's being suggested. I'm not really certain that I understand exactly what it is that's being covered by the potential fines. And, Senator Bromm, my concern in this respect is I've received a great number of phone calls and telephone messages, I mean telephone messages and written questions concerning service at an area near North Platte called Lake Maloney, which I think you're familiar with. And at Lake Maloney the US West provides voice phone, but does not provide any Internet service on their lines and does not allow the other usage of the service. They just have not provided the facilities for those things and apparently do not feel required to do so. And, of course, at this day and age when communication becomes beyond the listing on the telephone, I'm just concerned that these people are paying for a service that, frankly, they're not getting out there. And how does that fit into the program concerning whether or not there is a quality of service that's being denied to people?