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about is freedom. It's my right. It's in the constitution. Don't bother me with the facts. It's my head, my brain; I can do with it whatever I want. What did the United States Constitution have to say...or the U.S. Supreme Court have to say about this? Something kind of interesting: From the moment of injury, society picks the person up off the highway, delivers him to a municipal hospital and municipal doctors, provides him with unemployment compensation. If, after recovery, he cannot replace his job and if the injury causes permanent disability, as Senator Kruse said, to the cost of over \$200,000 a year, may...the public assumes the responsibility for this person and his family's sustenance for the rest...or possibly for the rest of his life. We do not understand the state of mind that permits the plaintiff to think only of himself is concern when he has one of these accidents. How many of you watched TV three or four weeks ago, played out almost 24 hours a day in Florida with the Terri Schiavo case? Now Terri Schiavo's brain...severe brain impairment was caused by something entirely different, but let me assure you this is the type of injury we're talking about--a severe brain injury. Doesn't make much difference which way you get it. Did that affect only the individual? My goodness, no. We were all caught up in this terrible tragedy. What was the right thing to do? I'm not here to talk about whether the right thing was done or not, but why in the world do we want to create more Terri Schiavos in Nebraska when we don't have to? I don't understand that. That's the one argument that is just beyond comprehension when we grant this freedom. How many brain injuries will this bill cause? I don't know. I don't know. Over a period of time, it's certainly going to cause some. Do we believe these statistics that we were given that the total cost to the taxpayers in Nebraska is around \$50,000 a year...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR JOHNSON: ...for everything, or do we believe Senator Kruse, who personally went up to Omaha, went to one of these rehab facilities and found out that for the severely injured ones it's over \$200,000 a year? A week or so we were talking about the economic development for rural Nebraska. One case like this three years in a row funds our rural economic