

amendment, it takes the Register of Deeds out of the cycle but it doesn't put anything back into the cycle so there's no way then of the excavator to find out who the nonmembers are, but that's a problem with the way it's now written. The excavator has to make the second call to the Register of Deeds Office and then he has to make a phone call to every operator that is not a member. So currently in Omaha where excavators are used to dealing with the one-call operation, where they make one call, under this system they might have to make a multitude of calls. Then if they don't comply with what this bill does, if they don't find every last individual, some of these are cable companies, might have recordings that they don't even talk to real live people, but if they haven't made every...contacted everyone, a locator is sent out to locate all of these facilities; if they happen to miss one and cut that line, nick that line, cause some damage, then the excavator is, in fact, under the terms of this bill very strictly liable for any damage that is caused. If there's going to be this much of a burden on the excavator, and the excavators I've talked to really don't have a problem sharing that burden, if there is, in fact, an easy way for them to locate the facilities that are, in fact, buried. The way the bill is now written is unacceptable in that term because there is no easy way for them to locate all of the facilities because they have to call the Register of Deeds Office, then they have to make individual phone calls to operators. If there was this one-call system, to actually work it genuinely has to be one call. For you to put this burden back on the excavators you also then have to make it easy for them to locate where these facilities are located. So what my amendment does very simply, although I did hand out printed material that indicates to members all of the impacts of this amendment, the crux of it is it says that if we're going to have a one-call center, for it to function properly all members do, in fact, have to, all operators do have to belong. It is not a big cost. I think you'll be hearing lots of cost and procedural sort of things. They don't have to send to the one-call center a detailed map of where everything is located. The way a one-call center operates, an individual who is going to dig, and it could even be...it could be a homeowner putting in a new deck. I remember when we put in a new deck in our home we had called the one-call center. You call the one-call center, you say I need clearances, is the term they use. I'm digging at a lot located at 719 Donegal Drive. I need you to come out and tell me where lines are buried. The one-call center then calls the electrical company, the telephone company, anybody who might