

SENATOR ABOUD: That litigation takes place. So there is no protection for our Nebraska manufacturers as a result of this bill passing. They are still involved in litigation for the improper construction of that product. And finally, we need to talk a little bit about what products we're dealing with here. For example, this pen, how long would you say the useful of this particular pen? Well it's probably maybe three months, maybe maximum a year, maybe two years. Well, that's the way a lot of the products that are constructed, their useful life usually isn't over the ten year period and more importantly the overwhelming majority of the products manufactured in this country are not inherently dangerous. They're not dangerous products. A couple of days ago I was sitting at my seat and the metal broke. You might have heard a loud bang and Harland came up to me afterwards and he said, well, that's pretty good, it's lasted over 50 years and I guess I could have had a cause of action against the State of Nebraska...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR ABOUD: ...if I had been injured. Of course I was not injured. The product did not endanger me and so there will not be any litigation involving the State of Nebraska, but it's over 50 years old and I think that's the way most products are. We expect them to last a long time but if they don't last that length of time they certainly don't endanger or hurt people.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Beutler, you followed next, you are next, followed by Senator Hohenstein, Will, Kristensen, Schellpeper, Bromm and Abboud. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I would like to speak in favor of the compromise and I think that it is, in fact, a compromise and I think that the simple division of the question recognizes the fact that it's a compromise because the other two portions that were divided out present a bit of a different perspective. But Senator Kristensen in framing his remarks on this particular subject does what he does best and that is to identify the things you like least and attack the things you like least and one of the things you like least are lawyers and lawyers filing lawsuits and, therefore, he talked a lot about suing and suing and suing. Well, none of us like people who bring false lawsuits or