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gation, follow-up, investigation, or take whatever action they feel is necessary. I urge the adoption of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body, I have a question of Senator Marsh please. Senator Marsh, the thing that bothers me, if you look on page 3, at the top of the page, any place in Nebraska they will report such cases to the law enforcement agency why only in Douglas county would we circumvent this? What's your rationale for having everywhere else in Nebraska report to law enforcement agency, then suddenly in Douglas county you report to a social agency? How can you justify this?

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Koch, we also allow any report to be made to the police in Douglas county. The objection is that the reports have not been working well in that county and that we have a well-staffed, well-trained group of individuals with speciality in the field of child protection who now have been receiving telephone calls from people who do not wish to report to the police. They only suspect that it may be abuse, because of the bruise marks on a child's arm. I want every case of assault and battery to be reported to the police. This is a police matter. This is a mechanism which will allow the most protection for the most children. It originally said . . .

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh, that's not in response to the question. You're going to be recognized for your statement.

SENATOR KOCH: I'd like to pursue this question a little more. Why not include Lancaster county and Sarpe county where you have high density populations? You can't tell me Lancaster county has any better system than Douglas county.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch, I'm going to have to let Senator Marsh argue then if you ask those kind of questions.

SENATOR KOCH: . . . brought out before this body. I don't think we understand why one county only that you can circumvent the law enforcement agency, and in the rest of Nebraska you go directly to that agency.

SENATOR MARSH: We are not circumventing that agency in any manner. The original piece of legislation did say that the report shall be made. That is no longer the piece of legislation we're talking about. It has been modified by the Cavanaugh and the Marsh amendment. All of the reports can go to the law enforcement agency in all 93 counties. Only Douglas county has such a large department of child protection, a Department of Protective Services. This is the move that we will be taking in the years to come in the larger metropolitan areas. Eventually, we'll want Sarpe county. Eventually, we'll want Lancaster county. Currently, there is not a sufficient force to carry on this activity right now. We will be moving in this direction.