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February 23, 2001 LB 298

SENATOR BRUNING: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, LB 298 is designed to codify fees established by the Nebraska State Records Board regarding access to Secretary of State's records. These fees were established by the State Records Board pursuant to the statutory authority that we gave them. We authorized...or the statute authorizes the board to set fees, but these fees have to be approved by the Legislature within 18 months, or they lapse. And the fees referenced in this bill were approved by the board last December, December of 2000, so we need to approve them within 18 months. What the bill does is it establishes a fee of 50 cents per page for on-line images. Current statute provides for a fee of up to \$1 per page. The State Records Board didn't think that was necessary, they chose 50 cents. And although the broad statutory language here applies to all Secretary of State's records, the only records that the office is currently storing and the only records they plan to put on-line are corporate and UCC records at this point. The bill eliminates a 75 cent per search fee for corporate status checks. This information is now available at no charge over the phone and it's consistent with the Secretary of State's goal to provide information electronically for the same price or less than it's available from other sources. So they want to repeal that fee. And the final thing this bill does is it puts a cap on batch fees, batch fees being fees for large requests. With that, I would yield my time back to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bruning. You've heard the opening on the advancement of LB 298. Senator Landis, as Chairman of Banking and Commerce Committee, to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, we used a clarifying amendment to say that the rules involved in LB 298 applied to business entity filings. In other words, the 50 cents and the \$2,000 batch maximums would apply in essence to what the Secretary of State intends to do and put on-line and available in this way, which are the corporate filings and the like. So it essentially says, instead of all records, it just says...inserts business entity filings made with the Corporate Division and filings made with the Uniform Commercial Code