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offender registry, and the conversion of carrier enforcement officers to state troopers. I do appreciate the controversy that some of these emotional issues present. Sometimes the difficult issues are those issues that most compel our action. Consider the legal chaos our state would face if the sentence in capital cases is jeopardized by a Supreme Court decision. Consider the issue of highway safety faced by motorists everyday because of too much turnover in carrier enforcement. Consider the federal funds Nebraska will lose for not enhancing the sex offender registry or, more importantly, the threat posed by those offenders not required to register under our state's current system. Consider the possibility that another person at fault for the death of an unborn child due to a homicidal act will not be prosecuted. And consider the abuse of our criminal justice system by frivolous appeals when the defendant's guilt is not in question. The need for reform of the postconviction appeals process offers a good example of why these five priorities need to be addressed. Let me describe a real example of how the system has worked for a person convicted of first degree murder fourteen years ago. This is not a death penalty case but, rather, a case where the defendant was sentenced to life in prison after being convicted in the late 1980s. Two years later, his direct appeal from that conviction was heard and it was affirmed by the Nebraska Supreme Court. The court at that time specifically determined there was no reasonable doubt as to the defendant's guilt of committing the homicide. Since the Nebraska Supreme Court's consideration and decision on the direct appeal, the defendant has sought postconviction relief on four separate occasions. None of the postconviction petitions were based upon claims of newly discovered evidence. None of this litigation has produced a single finding that the defendant was entitled to postconviction relief. This case has now consumed the time and the resources of the local county attorney's office and the district court in question on five separate occasions, and the time and the resources of the Nebraska Attorney General's Office and the Nebraska Supreme Court on four separate occasions. Of course, this abuse of resources pales in comparison to the emotional toll from the lack of finality that continues for victims and their loved ones in this system. This story reflects a broken system and this Legislature has a responsibility to fix it. For a justice