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FLOOR DEBATE

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last year; referred to the Judiciary Committee; advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Baker, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. This bill was brought to me by the Department of Corrections and right now the statutes state that work release inmates are able to work for state government subdivisions only, meaning Game and Parks, Roads, Department of Roads, so on, et cetera, but they have to be an agency of the state government. What they want to do is open this up to where these inmates can go out and work for cities and counties, other political subdivisions. If you will get...pull the green copy up here on your machine, you will see that it allows them the political subdivisions except school districts, educational service units, community colleges, state colleges, and universities. It does make that exception. Other than that, they could continue, of course, to work for state agencies. This allows them to go to counties and cities and any other state agency. I am thinking fair boards maybe would be inclined to use some of these people if they could. But that, it's a very simple issue here and I'd be willing to answer any questions as to how we came about with this or anything else. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Dwite Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I want to speak to you just a little about LB 112, and the difference in the type of work programs that we offer in our Department of Corrections in the state of Nebraska. This bill has to do with work detail. There is also work release. The bill does not take away any work release jobs that we now have. It only gives the Department of Corrections the authority to contract with some local governments, basically, city and county governments, to do some work detail work. Now the definition between the two; work detail is where they go out in not chain gang type things but they go out and they do work for these nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies. They do