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course.     I also want to express appreciation to Senator Engel for having prioritized this bill and would like to offer him the opportunity to utilize the remaining opening, a portion of the opening statement for his purposes. Thank you.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, thank you, Senator Brashear. I want to thank Senator Brashear again for his excellent work on this bill and, although I, again, as I did not introduce it, I feel very strongly about this subject of victims' rights and that is the reason I selected this as my priority bill this session. And our judicial system goes to great length to protect the rights of criminals and suspects and defendants but...which I think is correct and it should be done that way. However, I believe our society has not paid enough attention to the interest of the crime victim and this bill would help alleviate the deficiency in Nebraska. LB 847 would greatly benefit persons who are victims of crimes, and the bill would give force to the victims' rights amendment that was added to the Nebraska Constitution in 1996, as Senator Brashear alluded to. I believe that LB 847, LB 847 is long overdue and we need to take strong steps to protect the interest of the victim. I do ask your support for advancing this bill to Select File. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Raikes, you're recognized to open on the committee amendments. Excuse me, Senator Brashear. I couldn't see who was back there. Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, glad I made it back because Senator Raikes says he was going to open and he wouldn't want to go there. The committee amendment clarifies language and provisions regarding victims' rights set forth statutorily in LB 847. Currently, under 81-1850 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, the county attorney of the jurisdiction in which a person is convicted of a felony is to forward the name and address of any victim of the convicted...address of any victim of the convicted person to the Board of Parole. The statute continues to refer to Health and Human Services and the Department of Corrections in describing what is required of such agencies with regard to victims. The statute is amended by the committee amendment to specify that such county attorney is to