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April 17, 2002 LB 1303

SENATOR BROMM: That...Senator Coordsen, that's not the way I'd prefer to do things. No.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Okay. Is...is...is the...is there a plan, by Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, to further look at this issue of universal application, or repealing one or the other, the pretrial diversion program for traffic offenses?

SENATOR BROMM: There is a lot of interest on the committee's part and my part, and personally, I...I would like to pursue further, next year and the year after, if possible, making this available throughout the state. We felt, and again, I don't want to take all your time, but...but just let me say, I think there's a lot of interest in trying to do that. We felt like we had to...we had to take some steps first, and then try to move to that in a year or two to come.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Well, I was alerted to this program a couple of years ago by a constituent who had a...one of...one of their children was...lived in one county but was cited in the neighboring county, they live within about a half-a-mile of the county line, and, of course, the resultant offense was not able to be expunged from the record, and it resulted in significantly higher insurance premiums and all of the things that go along with that. For an...just to cite you an example of what might happen, Senator, is that my wife and I live one mile from a county line. One of the counties has a pretrial diversion program, and the other one, the one in which I live, was not. So if I were...if I were speeding on a county road within a mile of my home, it would depend on the inch of where the citation was written as to whether I was eligible for that...for the diversion program or not, because I've never had a citable, moving traffic violation, so I would be eligible for the program. Now, to me, that seems to be just really unusual application of justice in the state of Nebraska. So I'm not going to withdraw this amendment at this point in time, but I would like to hear you, Senator, if you would please, expound a little more on the rationale of having a system, as we have it. Then, if there's any more discussion, that would be fine. Then I will withdraw this amendment, because I believe the issue is too serious to be resolved here on the fifty-eighth day by an