

and important principle that you probably should be aware of, that you as legislators, do have a right, do in fact have a duty and a responsibility when you are working on these things to do all reasonable things and that you do have immunity and that if you have to tread on toes while you are doing it, you are not liable personally. As I say that's a concept that I guess will be pretty important to legislatures all across the United States. The other thing to come out of that study of really major importance had to do with the ultimate conclusion on the part of law enforcement, the medical people in the state, the Attorney General's office, the sheriff's office, the conclusion that indeed the Nebraska system did have grievous problems and should be changed. Now just exactly what those changes should be, there wasn't complete agreement on. So last year when the bill did come up I sought to delay it both for the reason that there wasn't agreement reached yet and for the reason that Senator Marvel didn't want this particular bill taking up too much time in the Legislature when we had a very pressing schedule. Subsequent to that we met with the Attorney General, all of the medical people and their representatives in the state, the county sheriffs, the county attorneys, particularly, who are deeply involved in the subject, and we said okay, let's see if we can't working together design a system that you think will work better and that will correct the deficiencies. The proposal that you have before you is the proposal, a complete write from A to Z starting on page 217 from the county attorneys, the sheriffs, medical people in the state, the Attorney General, so on and so forth. They do support it. They do support the bill I am empowered, I guess to say. Now, this particular version that I am recommending that you adopt at this time may not be wholly supported by members of the committee and they may offer additional, as I understand it, additional changes on Select File, assuming that it goes that far. There are economies we believe that can be developed in the system that they are suggesting. Economies that would save a lot of dollars, maybe make the system less political, whatever, but at this time I would urge you to adopt these amendments as the bill, advance the bill, get public reaction, get reaction from law enforcement, from other members of the legislature. What does this bill that they have written do? First of all it declares the present system obsolete basically by repealing major portions of it. Then it recognizes that we are going to have something called a forensic medical examiner system. We go on to set up competent people on the board that will be in charged of providing training to existing law enforcement people, the county attorney and so on. We go on then to give them the duty to appoint a chief medical examiner and a system to have deputies. Then we set up standards when for example you will be having these people involved in deaths and a chain of command so that the county sheriff, the county attorney out there in "Timbuktu", he knows what his duties are, he knows who he can