

the names of those who worked on the recodification committee for the past two years: Robert T. Cattle, County Judge; Curtis Evans, County Judge; Robert Lott, Lincoln attorney; James Maken, County Judge; Joseph Moylan, Separate Juvenile Court Judge; Patrick Mullan, Associate Separate Juvenile Court Judge; W. W. Nuernberger, Separate Juvenile Court Judge; Steve Poots, Associate County Judge; William Staley, Separate Juvenile Court Judge. In addition, judiciary staff sat in on several meetings to monitor the progress for the Judiciary Committee and Joe Steele, State Court Administrator did the same for the Supreme Court. I might further add that all of the above gentlemen worked on this project on their own time, received no pay for their services and the only expense to the Legislature was printing, the clerical support by the Judiciary Committee staff. What you have before you, 346, is the end product of a two year effort by the above mentioned recodification committee. What this committee attempts to do was to reorganize, codify if you will, the existing juvenile law as it appears now on the statute and as it has been refined by case law. I would emphasize at the outset that there has been little substantive change made in the current statute. Substantive change was not the primary concern of the committee. What was the primary concern of this committee was that the juvenile statutes be structured so that future changes could be placed within a comprehensive code structure. There have been many substantive changes principally to fill gaps in existing statutes. Where changes have been made they are readily noted by referring to your section by section summary. Let me say further that the recodification committee worked and made changes on the basis of consensus not by unanimous vote. The chief complaint that the Judiciary Committee heard at public hearing was that this juvenile code did not go far enough. I was most pleased to hear that complaint because this bill is meant to be a road map for the future and not an end in itself. I know that some of you have been a little irritated at the Judiciary Committee for the past two years for dragging its feet on suggested changes in juvenile law. I know that many of you have been receiving pressure from various interest groups in your area to come in with this change or that change and have wondered why the Judiciary Committee has failed to act in this area. The reason we have failed to act in this area is because the committee preferred to wait until our recodification efforts were completed so that the change you bring to us in future years may fit into the structure of a comprehensive code. Good or bad that is the decision of the judiciary committee. That is the decision