

April 13, 1981

LB 346

that I personally endorse and that is the decision that I am asking you to support by making LB 346 through final passage. We had to rely on someone to help us. I think we relied upon the talent available, the best talent available representative in every area of the state. With that said I would like to tell you what the Judiciary Committee would like to do with this bill. We would like to move it across this year with . . . as few as amendments as possible. I know that this is asking a lot because you are undoubtedly getting pressure from various youth groups in this area to effect this little change or that little change to help them out. I would advise you that this is exactly the type of thing that has been going on for the past several years. Please note, and I say, please note that LB 346 has a delayed operative date that will not become effective until July 1, 1982. We have left an intervening session of the Legislature before the operative date of this bill to allow for various youth advocacy groups to come in and submit their ideas for change to us. We will be receptive to those changes but we feel those changes must be made within the structure of a new juvenile code. My office as well as members of the recodification committee have received numerous telephone calls on LB 346. Several of these calls have been to the effect, my goodness, why do you want to do this. The answer in many of these cases is we are not doing anything. This is present law. This is there now. You just haven't been able to find it. I have given you this rather extensive background so you can understand why the Judiciary Committee has taken the approach it has for the past couple of years in regard to changing juvenile court statutes. I think this is a responsible approach and in fact I think it is the only workable approach in this area available to us at this time. I know I spent a great deal of time in this area giving you the background rather than explaining the bill. If any would like to hear it, I will go through the index and section by section explaining with you which is contained in your handout. Absent of that I would move for the advancement of LB 346 and we will try to answer questions you may have.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There are some amendments on the Clerk's desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Johnson had an amendment to on page 1345 but I understand he wishes to withdraw. Mr. President, in lieu thereof Senator Johnson has an amendment.....

SENATOR V. JOHNSON:on everybody's desk in a few seconds.