

other reports and that accounts for part of the amendments today. While a detailed fiscal review has been...has not been completed to determine the cost impact for the state, it is estimated that annual savings to the state could be in the neighborhood of \$100,000. In reviewing these specific reports, I have found that they are duplicated by various means, the departmental reproducing machine, state printing office and by private printing firms. In all instances the statutory requirement is fulfilled yet the costs of reproduction are escalated as the publication becomes a self-serving advertisement designed to assure the continued existence of an agency or a promotional device for seeking additional funding. Reports in full color, including pictures of agency heads and staff, does seem to me to place an unnecessary and unneeded burden on Nebraska taxpayers. Our LB 545 represents a strong commitment toward the reduction and in some cases elimination of reports that have been mandated by the Legislature but are simply no longer needed in their present annual form. The bill, as I said before, leaves, in fact, those reports which provide essential and valuable information and data. I feel that it is vital that we take this first step which will show our government agencies that the Legislature is willing to reduce and modify reporting requirements on them so that they can spend more time fulfilling the goals of their specific agencies. I am hopeful that by this action it will also be translated by the agencies into a corresponding reduction of reporting requirements on the citizens of Nebraska. As representatives of the people of Nebraska, one of our prime responsibilities is to make government more efficient and more cost effective. I propose that 545 is one step in that direction, and I move for the advancement of the bill, Mr. President, unless there are questions that I can answer.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely. The motion is to advance the bill.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I just briefly would like to add my support for the bill. The Public Works Committee looked at another bill, LB 181, and dealt with the same issue with the Power Review Board. We were compiling annual statistics in the power industry and found that, in fact, nobody was looking at the information, it wasn't in a form that could be useful and decided to totally eliminate the reporting requirements that were in there because it just wasn't valuable. And so I think that is an indication of our committee's looking at the situation and found the same sort of results Senator Johnson did. Additionally, the Power Review Board was then required only