

they chose to do so. But those fines were minimal and it was generally sort of assumed as a cost of doing business as opposed to a restriction upon...on the individual providing the transportation service for which they were not, under the law, entitled to do. So under the bill it reverses that. And one of the areas particularly, as outlined by Senator Lamb, was where there were a number of groups or companies that went jointly together, and it might be in the form of a cooperative. Under the act now they will still be allowed to continue and not be required to have a certificate. But it will be more precise as to what items they are allowed to carry, which essentially are only, if you read the amendment, essentially are those items that are in effect under the ownership of the joint owners of that carrier group, that they will be using themselves or selling. So I think that works out quite well to address that part of the issue. And then the additional provisions for the Public Service Commission to impose something other than the two options they currently have in the way of civil penalties to bring compliance to an individual carrying items for which they are not permitted under statute, and enhances that ability of the Public Service Commission to enforce the statutes they have responsibility to do. With that, Mr. President, I move the bill be advanced.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. Discussion on the advancement of the bill? Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Really just a comment or a question of Senator Warner. I noted that right now the Public Service Commission appeals directly to the Nebraska Supreme Court. That's correct? And under this bill I noted that now it will be filed in district court, or the district court of the county in which the party is domiciled.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Yes, the only change that this is under the administrative decision where those appeals could go to the district court. Other provisions that it currently goes directly to the...can go directly to the Supreme Court is not changed. But under these provisions here, where there is a carrier involved, then it can be initiated at a district court in the location where that carrier is located.

SENATOR PIRSCH: So there are still those cases that will go