

family have to explain the absence. And it seems to me a far more palatable way for those nonviolent offenders that would have the courts permission and would also have the offenders approval. They have to approve this if they want to take this alternative. I think it's a very tasteful alternative, very inconspicuous, keeps that person to be a contributing member instead of locked up in jail and being a taking member of society. With that, I urge your vote for LB 399.

SENATOR LANDIS: Excuse me, I hit the bell too quick there. This is the closing on 399, therefore, the question is, shall the bill advance? Those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Clerk will record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 399.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. The bill is advanced. The call is raised, and we will go on to LB 401. I'll remind the body that following 401 we will go to LB 608, a bill previously passed over by the Chair. The introducer of 401, Senator McFarland. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, 401, offered by Senator McFarland. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 12, referred to Judiciary, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill.

SENATOR LANDIS: I see that Senator Chizek is to carry the bill for Senator McFarland. Senator Chizek, to open.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Senator McFarland had asked if I would present this. LB 401 would allow either party, in dissolving a marriage or an annulment action, to request a name change in their petition or their response. The request would be granted, except for good cause shown. And the change would become effective on the date the decree was entered. The fact that children of the marriage would have a different surname than the parent would not, by itself, constitute good cause in the bill. It also provides that dissolving decree entered before the effective date of the bill, in which a name change was not requested or granted, would not hinder or prevent either party from affecting a common law name change. With that, I would urge advancement of the bill.