

April 5, 1989

LB 640

CLERK: Mr. President, LB...

PRESIDENT: Excuse me, LB 640.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 640 is offered by the Government Committee and signed by its members. (Title read.) The bill was introduced on January 19 of this year. It was referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee for public hearing. The bill was considered, Mr. President. It was ultimately sent to the floor. There are committee amendments as offered by the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson. Senator Baack, do you want to take it?

SENATOR BAACK: Yeah, I'm out of breath, excuse me. Yes, Mr. President and members, LB 640 is a bill that comes out of the Government Committee. It has been a bill that the Government Committee has worked on for a couple of years. We actually had LB 1167 on General File last year but we never had time to consider it. Got to catch my breath. I ran all the way up here. Okay, I will just go through the quick committee amendments here, and then if we could adopt the committee amendments, then I'll go into an explanation of the bill. The committee amendments do five different things. First of all, the committee amendments, in the existing language in the law, it says that the filing clerks, the local filing clerks will have petition papers on hand, keep these on hand. When someone wants to file a recall petition, they simply go to the local clerk and then they will issue these papers out. In practice, this is not what is being done. In all actuality the local clerk will have to send to the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State will send the proper forms to the filing clerk and then those forms will be issued, and that's what this puts into place and it puts it into place that the Secretary of State will be the one that will issue the petition papers. The advantage of this system is the fact that we have a better knowledge then of what recalls are going on around the state. If just the local filing clerks issue these papers, all we have is newspaper reports or whatever to tell us what recalls are going on. If we have the Secretary of State issuing these papers, then we have much better knowledge of how many recalls and what the recalls, where the recalls are located across the State of Nebraska. Secondly, the...one of the things that the committee discussed