

situation as we see it today.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Question has been called. Five hands? I do. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Kristensen, for closing.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I appreciate the opportunity today for some very frank discussion about the state of affairs in our judiciary, particularly that in the backlog of the Nebraska Supreme Court. And perhaps there are some who are confused about the procedure, and I'd be glad to clear up any of those problems that you may have exactly how this will work. But I want to talk to you, basically, in closing that if we don't do something with the backlog, the backlog will only get worse, and if it gets worse, the two years is going to stretch to two and a half years, and then it's going to stretch to three years, and it's a situation we can't tolerate. Through the interim we're going to be discussing long-term permanent solutions to really a societal problem, and that's the increased filings and disputes in our courts of law, and ultimately into our appeal system. I think Senator Wehrbein was correct, that we can call names, we can do a lot of things, and we can discuss, all of us, that we've had good and bad experiences in the court system. I would urge you to advance this bill on and address the real problem that we have and that is the backlog in our Supreme Court, and to try to alleviate the problem that we have of waiting two years for justice to be given to many of our appellants. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question before the body is the advancement of LB 586 to E & R Initial. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record vote has been requested. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on page 1657 of the Legislative Journal.) 32 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the