

May 11, 1989

LB 211, 817

PRESIDENT: Senator Conway, please.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Mr. President. LB 817, I would also like to request that it be moved over to Final Reading. That was the bill dealing with the boundary bill between the State of Nebraska and the State of South Dakota. I would like to move its advancement, please.

PRESIDENT: You've heard the motion. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. It is advanced. Very good, Senator Conway. Move on to General File, please. LB 211.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 211 was a bill introduced by Senators Langford, Bernard-Stevens and Smith. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 9 of this year, referred to the Judiciary Committee. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. I have no committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Senator Langford, are you going to begin on this?

SENATOR LANGFORD: Yes, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Okay.

SENATOR LANGFORD: It's been so long, I've almost forgotten what the bill is about, Mr. President. Mr. President and colleagues, this bill does one thing, it's a real trust me. It changes the statutes of limitations from three to five years on sexual assault for children under 16 years of age. Actually children hesitate to reveal the assault until they are older and can fully comprehend what has happened to them. The extra two years will make it easier for prosecutors to bring these people to justice. I think the most important thing about this is that it has been found that once a person commits an assault, a sexual assault against a child, frequently this doesn't stop until the person is stopped. The only, the only really thing that has been said about this bill is that some of the people wanted it to be ten years instead of five. The Nebraska Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault Coalition wanted ten years, as did the Rape/Spouse Abuse Crisis Center. However, I feel that five years is a good compromise. The Nebraska County Attorneys Association, the Lincoln Police both testified, as did the Committee for Alcohol and Drug Education. It's a little hard to say very much about this problem since everyone is very well