

so that would cover the yard area and around the house. The electronic signal triggers a phone call to a central computer. The time of the phone call is printed on a sheet and anyone that is not supposed to be out of that 200 foot circle, then that violation is reported on the sheet. But before the person is brought to court, of course, an investigation is made to determine whether the machine is working properly. In 1988, 89 people were placed on an electronic surveillance system in Sarpy County. Eight people failed to comply with the probation provisions. In other words, they left that 200-foot radius when they were not authorized to do so to go to work or to go to the doctor or any other specific stipulation, but this failure rate is consistent with national studies showing an average of 10 percent of people who are placed on the system will fail. Sarpy County had 25 to 30 receivers and there also is a grant from the Nebraska Crime Commission who will help counties provide this kind of equipment. The funds are available to all counties in Nebraska, but so far few counties have applied for the funds in the absence of statutory authority to use the systems. And it is interesting, besides the bracelet or it can be worn on the ankle, they are working on other electronic systems and one which you might find interesting is a voice identification to determine whether a person is complying with the terms of their probation. The computer randomly calls the phone number at a time when the person is supposed to be there and the recorded voice asks the person to recite the names of eight states or it might be another litany and then that person's voice is compared to the voice stored in the computer to determine whether the voices are the same. This is the age of electronics and also this is the age when we need to find some good alternatives to our imprisonment of people and yet provide the safety and the oversight that is needed.

SENATOR LANDIS: I understand you have the only copy of the amendment. Are you going to read that to the body?

SENATOR PIRSCH: Yes, I am going to read that now, Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. Good.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Now that you know the background and just to give you a little more background, Senator Hannibal is working and his committee is working on intensive probation and, of course, electronic surveillance is and can be a part of that,