

information that is necessary to at least move it over to Select and in some cases questions that may be left still unanswered we will allow those members the opportunity to have those questions answered between now and Select File. The history of LB 159 goes back about five to six years really, or more than that if we talk about various pieces of the legislation in the concept at hand. About five years ago we had LB 425. LB 425 was known as the project justice tort reform type of bill that was introduced by myself, was sponsored and endorsed by I believe 90 different organizations at the time. It included many provisions that people were concerned with to try to make Nebraska more responsive to our economic development activities, more responsive to people who are...received injuries and are victims of various accidents and happenings in the state and also be fair with respect to how we unravel the costs and allocate those costs to the persons who caused injury. It started off with several areas and we had frivolous actions as a consideration. We had corporate director liability. We talked about the various nonprofit liability concerns. We talked about joint and several. We talked about accountants liability and other professional liability factors in that bill. As that bill went to advance it was really too much at one time for, I think, the body to absorb, it was too much of a change for many people and so the following year I introduced several bills and we broke down the provisions within LB 425 into several provisions, no longer having a coalition specifically of all these organizations alike but we forwarded those bills. Almost every one of those provisions of LB 425 is now in our statute books as we were able to look at them one at a time, directors and officers liability, frivolous lawsuits and the like. That brought us down to the final bill which was LB 1178 which basically pitted the concept of slight gross with the concept of joint and several liability. Compromises were made and very difficultly fought over, working out and hammering out between all of the principles what would be fair on both ends, how we could indemnify a victim of an accident and by the same token how we could be the fairest as fair could be with respect to the individuals who ultimately would have to pay for the damages that were caused by them or at least were judged to be of their direction. That was LB 1178. LB 1178 marched through this body on General File. LB 1178 received...advanced 26-0; Select File 1178 advanced 28-3. On Final Reading LB 1178 was passed by this body 33-10. At that point it was at the end of the legislative session and the Governor vetoed 1178, I think basically under some ill advice, but she vetoed 1178. We had already adjourned