

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Shall the bill be advanced? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 946.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 946 advances. LB 954.

CLERK: 954 offered by Senator Abboud. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 4 of this year, referred to Health Committee, advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud, please.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, LB 954 requires notification to a representative of the Nebraska Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation in the event of a death resulting from the sudden infant death syndrome. The Nebraska Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation is a nonprofit organization which does not charge for its services. It is made up of health care professionals as well as parents that have had... that have gone through the tragedy of having their child die by SIDS. Now the sudden infant death syndrome is the leading cause of death in infants between the ages of one week and one year. Deaths caused by sudden infant death syndrome require a police investigation and an autopsy. After the shock of the infant death, these procedures of the autopsy and the police investigation add a great deal of pain onto the death of the child. The organization talks to the parent, tells the parent that they are not responsible for the death of the child. What this bill provides for is that the local county coroner or county attorney, whoever is acting as the county coroner, notify the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Foundation in addition to contacting the local community mental health association. Most county attorneys currently give the information to this foundation and then they contact the parents, but because it is not in the statute, there is a concern among some of the county coroners that they are not sure whether they should be doing it or not. It has been a system that has worked very well and I move the advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion? Seeing none, all in favor of the advancement of 954 please vote aye, opposed nay.