

committee. The nonprosecution of child sexual cases in Nebraska is a major problem, not only a major problem but it is a serious and devastating a situation as anyone could find. The families and especially our children are being destroyed for the rest of their lives, believe me. When I talked to some of the parents or even the grandparents, sometimes the grandparents step in because the parents are either frightened or don't want the public to know what has happened to their children, so the grandparents...the last two cases that I got or problems that I got were called in to me, at my home, have been the grandparents that are calling, because the grandchildren now have gone to their grandparents and seem to be able to trust them and ask them for guidance. And they do want to come forward, but in a lot of cases these children have been threatened and threatened for years and now may be in their late teens or early twenties and coming forward and telling us what happened to them when they were 13, 14, 15 and even 18-years of age. So I think what we're doing today is going to be very important to this State of Nebraska, mainly to the children and families that are involved in child abuse, not especially all of them with the Franklin Committee. But I didn't realize, until I became a member of the committee, how many families are out there that can give you history of what happened to their children and what happened to them in some cases when they were children. And now they're in their thirties, forties, married and raising their own children, and then they're coming forward and telling us these horrible situations that happened to them years ago. I commend the Judiciary Committee for the committee amendments and combining the two bills

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, and hopefully LB 1246 will restore the confidence of the people, the residents of the State of Nebraska in the situation, what's happening to our children today, believe me, it is serious and it's something that I sometimes wish that all 49 members of the Legislature were members of the Franklin Committee. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, I have to state a couple of points with reference to how I feel about what is being done today. I understand what is being attempted and what the Franklin Committee is trying to do. I have to give credit to