

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. And the question before the house is the adoption of the Hannibal motion to return the bill to Select File for purposes of amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The motion prevails and the bill is returned. Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members, I don't want to delay the debate or discussion too long, but I do feel it's kind of important that I put a couple things in the record, maybe even try to establish some legislative intent on what LB 1212 is purported and what our intentions are with the bill. The couple things that ought to be mentioned is that intensive supervision probation program has been, I believe, clearly proven as a very viable and cost effective program as an alternative to incarceration for some convicted misdemeanants and for that matter, some convicted felons. And it has been in place in some form in at least 30, 35, maybe even as many as 40 states. We are one of the last few to do this, however, we do have some precedent already in our state. We have had a pilot program going on in Lancaster County over the last year, year and a half, with some fairly good results. The Douglas County, and I believe Sarpy County, on the county level have been operating an electronic monitoring, an intensive supervision probation system, albeit for shorter periods of time. This is going to be moving into a longer period of time, and there are a couple of caveats that ought to be talked about. One of the things that you do worry about when you do not incarcerate a convicted misdemeanor or a convicted felon for certain kinds of crimes is that you want to make sure that the public safety and welfare is paramount in your decisions to decide whether you have incarceration or something less, some kind of a probation system. The system is already clear that that is primary in the judge and I would like to mention that this is a discretionary program. It will be up to the sentencing judges as to whether they would grant this kind of a program. It obviously is not usable for all kinds of convicted persons, but there certainly is an identifiable group that would significantly reduce the pressures on our prison crowding systems right now, prison overcrowding system. So, number one,