

opening on the bill itself, speak very briefly on what optical imagery is. I think the Chair of the Government Committee did as good a job as anybody in putting this in a terminology that nontechnical people like me can understand where you ask the individual, is this something like a CD, a compact disc, a new methodology for preserving musical sounds on a disc as opposed to the tape or the other system that we're used to and that's basically what it is. What an optical imagery disc will do is it will, by using a laser system, will imprint a piece of information on a piece of Plexiglas that will be covered then by a metallic or a hydrocarbon material and that will then be used to preserve these records. It is a faster system of retrieval. It is a system of retrieval that can be communicated across via telecommunications where microfilm and microfiche cannot and it's a state of the art method of preserving records. What the amendment does is it adds this method to the forms of information that are admissible in evidence so I would appreciate your support for the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. We will now proceed to vote on the Withem amendment to LB 25. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the amendment? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Withem's amendment to the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted. Senator Withem, for opening statements.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would like just a brief opening on the bill. Senator Schmit pointed out in his remarks that we are, as a state government and as a society, amassing more and more information, more and more material, more and more transactions that need to be preserved. Years ago we realized that the ability to maintain the volumes of paper that we generate as a government is just impossible. So we have, in the State of Nebraska, State Records Management Office. We also have, in our statutes, authorization to use items like microfilm, microfiche, other methods of preserving records. We also have...the State Records Management Office has in his power, as state records manager, the ability to recognize other methods of preserving records. This area of optical imagery is somewhat new. There are a number of states that are, in fact, using this. There are, in fact, a number of subdivisions of government in Nebraska