

license pulled in other areas? Have they been fined on a number of different occasions for various infractions against the insurance laws of the state where they may have worked previously or where they currently are employed? So it's a clearing house mechanism that allows for the problem which originates at the grass root level with the agent because many companies do not have in-house agents. They contract with individuals to sell their product and they have no way at present, other than the national clearing house to the NAIC, of determining what type of individual they are hiring. What this proposal would do is add to the NAIC's current data bank and allow for the...and allow the requirement of the Department of Insurance to keep a record on each agent or broker licensed within the State of Nebraska. And it would keep track of the number of written complaints submitted to the director within the preceding five years so that prior to the, I guess, contracting or the hire of an agent a company can go in and take a look at what they're dealing with in the way of an insurance agent, what kind of a track record history they have in the field of insurance. I look on it as consumer protection legislation. It also allows, it says at the bottom of page 1, a copy of the record on an agent or broker shall be available upon request of any insurer, as defined in Section 44-103 which holds the certificate, who is considering appointing the subject agent or contracting with the subject broker pursuant to the insurance producers licensing act. In other words, it has to be an individual who the company is contemplating hiring and it's just...you can't go in and ask for the information unless there is an actual offer of hire. And the issue here is again one where the purpose is to weed out those bad apples, if you will, prior to them ever going on board. There is a number of horror stories of individuals who have been hired. After the fact, you find out that the same individuals have had their license revoked in other states and...or currently have issues pending before the department in this state but because of the fact of the matter that in some of those cases the information is confidential there has not been any notification or way in which the potential employer could find that out. This is a confidentiality issue as well that would be protected and that's where the aspect of only those individuals who are being considered for hire would be eligible to be, I guess, looked up or researched on the part of that company. I would urge adoption of the amendment. It is one that, again, has had little or no opposition in its present amended form. I would hope that the body would attach it to LB 419. Thank you,