

the filing of the petition and the decree, that is the one where Nebraska has the 60-day waiting period. You will see that we are already very conservative, that the largest block of states have no waiting period at all on the front end. Another five have 20 days, another four have 30 days, and at 60 days there is another block of about 10 there. Now what we are doing is extending the 60 days to 90 days. So once we do that, as far as our initial waiting period is concerned, there are only two states in the entire Union that would have a longer waiting period, that would have a more conservative waiting period than we do, if you want to look at it that way. So we would have a very, very conservative initial waiting period. Now with regard to the waiting period after the decree, as I indicated to you earlier, as you can see on the chart, it would switch from six months, and, basically, there are only two other states in the Union that have that kind of a waiting period, one is longer. But then there are about 32 states that would have the same waiting period that Senator Kristensen and I are setting up in this bill, the same waiting period. So overall looking at the first waiting period and the second waiting period, we would still be one of the most conservative states in the Union in terms of waiting periods. Another aspect of this, which I think is very important, is the preservation of the family and how you preserve the family. Do you preserve the family better by having a second waiting period after the decree is entered, or do you preserve the family better by having a longer initial waiting period? I would argue very strongly that the family is best preserved by a longer waiting period before the decree is entered because during that period of time there is some psychological thing, there are some psychological things going on with people that might cause them to get back together again. Giving them a little more time at that particular point in time may be helpful, but how many people get back together again after that divorce decree is entered? At that point in time when the divorce decree is entered, in their minds they are single, they are divorced, they are separated. Legally they are not, but in their minds they are. And five years ago I went back, when I first had this bill, I went back and I checked the court records in Lancaster County, and I could not find, in the first 1,000 cases that we checked, of any instance where anybody got back together again in the six months waiting period after the decree is entered, not one case. If you talk around with experienced lawyers, you will find one or two now and then who once in their career had that happen. But I would argue very strongly that the number of times that that happens is rare, and