

January 14, 1992 LB 522

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And if you can't answer, that's fine. I might be able to find someone in the body who can. When you do, go through with me real quick the check that teachers are going to be asked to do. I assume we're looking at a fingerprint.

SENATOR DIERKS: That is correct.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And we're going to be then looking at the...there will be a background check that would go to the national computers, I would assume.

SENATOR DIERKS: That's right.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: And then we would get information concerning whether there are outstanding warrants or any other things...what would we get from that type of check?

SENATOR DIERKS: No, you wouldn't get anything on outstanding warrants. You would find only things that are on their record as far as convictions.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Convictions, and then that would take approximately how long for one check to get...how long would it take, for example, for them to put a request in before a response was received?

SENATOR DIERKS: I'm not sure that I can answer that, but I don't think it would take very long. It's a national registry...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I think I'd beg to differ a little bit. I know, in the Government Committee, one of the questions I asked two years ago was a state patrolman and I wish I had time to go back and find that information, but the state patrolman was in force. I asked them how long it takes on an average check to do that and we were looking at sometimes one to two months before they actually got anything back. Then we started looking at the Omaha public school system. We looked at the number of teachers that on any one year they may want to do a background check and we tried to figure out would they actually have the information back before they had to make a hiring decision, and that became quite a problem. Then we asked the school system, say, by the way, someone retires, you've got