

report, can choose whether to show the report to the employer. If they choose not to provide the report, the applicant would simply withdraw his or her application. On the other hand, if they present it to the employer, they would have the opportunity to explain any negative items in the report. That report would then become a part of a confidential personnel file. My staff has been in contact with the state patrol. We have had some very limited discussions with sheriffs' departments, and I've directed my staff to get together with the sheriff, state patrol, and proponents, to make sure that the language meets the requirements of law enforcement to carry out the intent of this bill. With that promise, I urge your support for this amendment as a valid workable compromise to the various interests at stake under LB 522. I would ask that you support my amendment and then vote to advance the bill to Select File. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Chizek. Senator Dierks.

SENATOR DIERKS: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I just wanted to tell you that I am in accord with this amendment. I think that Senator Chizek has done, pardon me, I think he has done excellent work. His staff has helped us a great deal with this, and I think that this does remove many of the objections that we heard on the floor the other day in debate. Just to go over them again, the fingerprint requirement is removed from the bill, and the report is submitted by the teacher or the applicant. The report comes back to the applicant. It doesn't come to the Department of Education. The applicant, then, may, if he or she refuses to let the school board, the hiring agency, see the report, well, then that is just in that person's discretion. But we feel like we have gotten away from the invasion of privacy, both with the removal of the fingerprint requirement and also with the fact that this record becomes available only to the applicant, and the applicant can do with it then as that applicant wishes. So, again, I think that we still are providing for the welfare of our students and we will...with this legislation, we can provide for the welfare of our students, and we will at least give some security to the parents of those students, and provide, I think, even good help for the teachers, themselves, and for the other noncertified employees of the districts because I think they should also want this same thing for the students that they are in contact with. I would like to give the remainder of my time to Senator Chizek.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chizek.