

the Judiciary Committee. Holding hearings on this many bills isn't an easy undertaking and I appreciate very much the consideration of Chairman Lindsay and the other distinguished members of the committee. I want to make it perfectly clear that this motion in no way reflects any dissatisfaction with the committee. We simply have a policy disagreement on a very important issue. The Judiciary Committee favors the law dealing with police pursuits as currently written. On the other hand, Mr. Speaker, I believe that the method of reimbursement for losses incurred by an innocent third party, injured or damaged as a result of a law enforcement pursuit should be changed and this is what LB 863 attempts to do. It changes the method of reimbursement. We all recognize that it is necessary under certain circumstances and as such beneficial to society for law enforcement to pursue a criminal suspect. It is also acknowledged that it is appropriate public policy to respond to the needs of innocent victims harmed by our decision to pursue criminals. I believe that LB 863 deserves to be placed on General File, not because 25 senators cointroduced the bill with me, or because of all the work that went into the bill. I believe this motion should be supported because it provides a reasonable approach to this very important issue. This bill should be placed on General File on its merits. Since this isn't a priority bill, I'm sure the members recognize that it will not come to the floor during this session. This will allow time during the interim for interested parties to address technical concerns that have been raised about the bill. I welcome this. Mr. Speaker, it would be my hope that we could then debate the merits of LB 863 during the 1996 session. One point needs to be emphasized and stated as clearly as possible. This bill does not limit the ability of an innocent third party to collect damages. LB 863 will allow law enforcement to set reasonable pursuit standards, make it clear to criminals that they will be held accountable for their illegal actions and, very importantly, protect innocent members of society. This bill was developed with the assistance of a variety of individuals representing cities and towns, the insurance industry and the state. Those who testified at the hearing in support of LB 863 include Larry Primeau, on behalf of Governor Nelson; Allen Curtis of the Nebraska Crime Commission; and Elv Portis for the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska. In addition, representatives of the League of Nebraska Municipalities, Paternal Order of Police, and the Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska appeared in support of the bill. I wish to repeat that this bill does not limit the ability of