

February 2, 1996 LB 645

and what Senator Abboud's amendment did is say there's another level, a higher risk level, that these individuals need to be determined as a predator or sexually violent or whatever, but they need to be on there a longer time. That's why the amendment said that they have to be on there, I believe it's for ten years, at least. And then it's determined whether or not they continue. And so the idea is...yeah, that's what it is. It's at least ten years and then they might end up being removed if, for cause. Now that's similar to what we do with the child abuse registry. Currently, if you are on the child abuse registry, you're there for ten years. And then it's possible that you might be, if nothing has happened in that ten-year period, the Department of Social Services may remove you from the child abuse registry. So this is actually consistent, in some ways, with what we do with the child abuse registry. The idea being what we want to do is to put people on notice that the potential is there for danger, for children or for others who might be victim. So it's information and it's, at this point the bill is private information. The child abuse registry I think can actually be accessed in some cases by outside sources, but the idea is to inform the public and then they can make a determination of whether or not a risk exists and take precautions. It's a precautionary preventive step to try and keep people from becoming victims. So, again, I want to reiterate what Senator Witek was saying was right. And we don't always agree on everything, so this has to be right. Senator Witek and I and Senator Abboud don't often join forces on legislation, but in this case we're all seeing the same thing. And I think you ask the spectrum of Nebraskans, and you ask them about sexual violence and whether we should have a registry, and you're going to find people saying absolutely yes. I think we ought to go even farther than that, obviously, and I'd like to talk about that at some point because trying to take these steps is vital, but releasing some of these people in the first place, I think, is putting the public in jeopardy, and letting people know that isn't enough. I think, obviously, we release too many individuals that are just going to turn around and commit crimes again. And we know that, and yet we do it anyway. So that is the heart of the issue. I hope we can get at it at some point, but at least we can do this much. This is to me a very minor, not a minor, it is a major step forward, but there is even more that needs to be done to help deal with this problem. But that's, that's my assessment. And I would be happy, again, I've got some information. I will try and run a copy of this for

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