

not subject to the Eighth Amendment, prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment. Now in California, where registration has been examined and actually has public notification of the registered sex offenders, and the issue has been addressed by the court on whether registration is a form of punishment. They viewed it as a form of punishment in California and the courts found that even though it was a form of punishment, it was not considered cruel and unusual punishment. So I believe that the courts of the state in the nation, federal as well as state laws, have clearly provided there was no problem with the constitutionality of these types of laws. Why haven't, why hasn't Nebraska enacted this type of legislation? I, I really don't know. I've been on the Judiciary a number of years and we've never really had any legislation introduced. I guess that's the reason. And like I said, the big push was back in '94, no bill was really introduced till, till last year, and we had three members of the body, two members including myself that did introduce registration of sex offenders, but we really had nothing prior to that time. I think we've had a good discussion about the whole issue of registration of sex offenders. I tried to work with some of the concerns of the body in dealing with whether registration is a good or bad thing in trying to make the law a good piece of legislation. As I said, on the onset the, this original bill was a, the original green copy of 645 was a bill that was modeled after looking at Idaho and Arizona. And, but after we sent the bill out of committee, there was additional...I was notified that the federal government was requiring these additional criteria, which were in the form of the committee amendment and which was made a part of this bill. And it was my belief that because of the loss of federal money that we should adopt those changes. My belief is that it did make it a better bill and I'm in full support of the piece of legislation as it currently stands. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Abboud, are you...

SENATOR ABBOD: Um-hum.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you. Now, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Witek had an amendment, but I understand you want to withdraw at this time, Senator? Senator Chambers would move to amend. Page 5, line 14, after "shall" insert the word "knowingly and". (See FA421 on page 690 of the