

February 5, 1996 LB 754

if you're following along on page 2 of the committee amendments, not the backside, but when you go through the numbers on the left hand side you go to where the second group of numbers start, one, two, three, that would be technically page 2 of the bill. Or page 2, after the word "offense" in line 9. So we're about half way down. There's one word in line 9 and I'd like to add the following sentence, "Under no circumstances shall a certification be denied by the Commissioner of Education if a felony or misdemeanor found in any criminal history check is not against the law in the state of Nebraska." And my only point in this particular, I'm not, this will not necessarily, this will not detract from the bill, but I'm saying if we're going to have people in Nebraska, and we're the Nebraska Legislature, dealing with the laws that we believe our citizens should be under based on their input, hopefully, that if we of in our wisdom have decided that is not against the law, that if someone's going to practice education in this state that they at least are able to follow Nebraska law. So this amendment is very, very straightforward. After the criminal background check, if, in fact, you get a hit, and it comes back listing a misdemeanor, and that misdemeanor is not against the law in the state of Nebraska, that that would not be reason to withdraw the certification, or the certificate of teaching, it would have to also be against the law in the state of Nebraska. That's the nature of the amendment, it's very straightforward and I would urge its adoption.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Before we begin debate on this amendment I, Senator Witek would like to announce that today is Nebraska Jaycees Day at the Legislature. The Governor has declared it Nebraska Jaycee Day and the Jaycees are here from across the state, will be visiting the Legislature throughout the day. Senator Chambers, on the Bernard-Stevens amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Bernard-Stevens a question.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Bernard-Stevens,...

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes.

SENATOR CROSBY: ...will you yield.