

feel rit that crime, though many times we have debate about what the crime and penalty should...or what the penalty for the crime should be, but we decide that. So if, for fact, in the state of Nebraska a particular incident is not against the law in Nebraska because we have deemed it not to be a criminal offense and a person is teaching in Nebraska, under Nebraska law, our law should not be inferior to Missouri law. Our law in Nebraska should be the law that all Nebraskans are guided by, with the exception, certainly, of federal law, which applies to all states equally. What this amendment would say is that anyone applying for certification in the state of Nebraska is going to have to follow Nebraska law. And if this bill passes and they're coming into the state of Nebraska and have not been a resident for five years, they are going to have their fingerprints checked. And if we find that they have violated a Nebraska law in another state, then their certificate would be pulled. If we find that they have not violated a Nebraska law, even though it may have been a violation of Iowa law, since they are working, living, and teaching in Nebraska, our law is going to be the one that we go by, that would not be a reason to pull their certification. And that's the nature of the amendment, and I believe it's a straightforward amendment and a constructive amendment to the improvement of the bill.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Chambers would move to amend Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment. (See FA427 on page 704 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Chambers, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, this amendment that I'm offering to Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment shouldn't require much discussion at all. I would strike the language after the word "not" in his amendment. The language stricken would be "against the law in the state of Nebraska" and I would insert "a felony or misdemeanor under the laws of the state of Nebraska" and this is the way it would read, "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 a felony or misdemeanor under the laws of the state of Nebraska." This does not go to the philosophy of Senator