

advanced to General File. I have no amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Jones, to open.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President and members of the body, the bill provides that the Nebraska State Patrol will provide responses to inquiries from the rural law enforcement regarding investigation procedure relating to child abuse and neglect. Calls are to be referred to the State Patrol members who are trained in the knowledgeable concerning screening and child abuse and neglected reports, interview technology, family dynamics, knowledge to how to handle abuse and sexual abuse cases including handling of evidence. The Patrol shall also develop a list of health care professionals for given, for the given area. This bill was brought to me when we had a Foster Care Review Board meeting up in my area. This all the Patrol and the local towns, the marshals, they came and they said they had problems because they didn't know how to handle some of these cases in their area. And when they did have to handle them, well, they didn't know for sure what to do. And so they had to take off a day from the town to take them some place to get something done right with them and leave their town with no Patrol or no marshal there. So that's the reason I brought the bill and I think it's been well accepted. And the training of our State Patrol now has got knowledge in this area. And where they set up this, some line that they can be able to call to them and find out procedures to how to handle it. So it came out of committee with seven in favor and no opponen"s. And so I'm, I'd like to have your passage on it. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Wesely, for discussion.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, the committee did consider the legislation from Senator Jones. We did check with the State Patrol. They said they were more than willing to accept this responsibility; that, in fact, they did some of it now but this would clarify their role in helping our rural law enforcement carry out child abuse and neglect investigations. This will be of assistance and a positive step forward. I'd urge adoption, advancement of the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Wesely. The quest...exc se