

supports the amendment. I think...we've got it I think in the shape where all parties do support it, something that the Judiciary Committee heard in committee in its own form as a bill, and was holding that bill for awhile to try to work out the kinks with it. Those were worked out. The bill is important, I think, to pass this year to get a mechanism in there to allow those background checks to be done expeditiously. With that, I would urge adoption of the amendment. I'd be happy to try and answer any questions. I would, if Senator Wesely would like any of the balance of the time, I would yield it to him.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wesely, you now have eight minutes left.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members,...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Please don't use all of them.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, you know the session is getting toward the end, but I appreciate that. Senator Lindsay did summarize what the situation is. This is based on LB 778, a bill I and Senator Beutler introduced. There were problems, concerns that were expressed at the hearing. We did work with the Judiciary Committee, Senator Lindsay and other members, and the NRA, and the mental health advocates in the state, and we have reached an agreement. This bill was strongly supported by police across the state of Nebraska who are in charge of trying to implement the Brady bill, and I suppose we ought to call it the Ashford bill, which is the state background check bill for handguns. Anyway, between the Ashford-Brady bill, we have required, under an amendment by Senator Schellpeper, that it'd go to an instant check at a certain point, and we do require that those that have a mental health history and have been adjudicated under the mental health laws of the state not have access to handguns. The problem is that they can't get information to confirm whether or not somebody has a mental health problem. That is under the current situation, and that will be made even worse under the instant check situation. So we have set up a system whereby the local police have an application for an individual who wants to buy a gun under this bill, they would then get ahold of the State Patrol and the 1-800 number, the patrol would then check with the DFI computer system where they would know whether or not someone has a record, but their confi...the