

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 2, 1999 LB 474

about the services and sorts of information she has brought to us. JoAnne, thank you very much and welcome to the Nebraska Legislature. LB 474.

CLERK: (LB) 474, Mr. President, by the Agriculture Committee. It is signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 14, referred to the Agriculture Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The Chair recognizes the Chairman of the Agriculture Committee, Senator Dierks, to open on the bill.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Here again we are dealing with bringing the rules and regulations of the department up to date in the law, and LB 474 was drafted with the help of the Nebraska Food Industry Review Board. In general, the bill is intended to clean up some problems the Department of Agriculture has encountered in implementing the Nebraska Pure Food Act as amended in '97. In 1997, most of the Food and Drug Administration's 1995 recommended food code was adopted by reference. At that time, a number of sections were not adopted but were reworded and included in the legislation. Since that time, the FDA has come out with a 1997 recommended food code, and this food code is not significantly different from the '95 food code, but there have been some improvements made which we've incorporated in this bill. The 1998 Conference for Food Protection, a national association of food regulatory officials, has also recommended some improvements in the FDI codes, which are incorporated in this bill. With that, I will wait and do the committee amendments, I think, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You are recognized to open on the committee amendments. (See AM0107 found on page 397 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR DIERKS: The committee amendment, AM0107, reversed one of those recommended changes. As drafted, LB 474 deletes the exclusion of institutions inspected by other agencies for food sanitation, because the department found that no other agency has statutory authority to do a complete sanitation inspection without relying on the Pure Food Act. The committee agrees that