

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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February 12, 1999 LB 315

SENATOR REDFIELD: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to echo Senator Landis' comments. I was going to address the same issues. I think he said it very well. I don't think it is the responsibility of the State Legislature to determine what clubs and who should belong to them, and I think that the parity issue can be better solved by repealing the requirement of the district judges.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body, I've listened carefully to what Senator Landis and Senator Redfield have said. I continue to urge the advancement of the bill and I'd like to suggest a rationale and an approach. If we were to...if we were to not advance this bill, I think we are doing something which could be perceived by our hard working county judges as negative. If we were to turn this bill into a repeal of the District Court Judges Association, I think, again, we would do something negative. I truly believe that the positive approach to be responsive to the logic that's been urged upon us is to advance this bill to create the County Court Judges Association, to say that there is no distinction; we do not want a lack of parity, we do not want a lack of equality or a lack of respect, and then if we're going to consider eliminating the District Court Judges Association, then consider doing it to this...this association also at the same time, so it can be explained positively and appropriately and not send a whole bunch of mixed and negative signals. I urge the advancement of this bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. Further discussion on the advancement of LB 315? Senator, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: (Microphone not activated.) ...body, only to stress that I really believe this is important. While it may not seem important when read in a theoretical sense, we have...we have our county court judges serving diligently, doing very, very important work that is a part of the fabric of our society, and I think we ought not to casually fail to respond to this reasonable request, which is about parity and equity and