

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

April 12, 1999 LB 623

Court will draft the rules and regulations to implement the act. I would be pleased to answer any questions. I do want to urge the advancement of the bill. I only wish that you could have been with the Judiciary Committee as it heard a description of this entire process of transporting detainees for these personal appearances, with peace officers...law enforcement people beginning this process at 5:30 in the morning and ending it at the end of a day, and surely in this day of modern communication, we can do it differently and we can do it better, and I submit to you that LB 623 is better. Thank you.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** The Chair of the Judiciary Committee, Senator Brashear, is recognized to open on the committee amendments.

**SENATOR BRASHEAR:** The committee amendment to...Mr. Speaker, members of the body, the committee amendment to LB 623 was suggested by...at the hearing by proponents of the bill. The first portion of the amendment would allow a written arraignments, something heretofore we have not had in Nebraska. This is a practice at the arraignment in district court which allows a written document, signed by the defendant and his or her attorney, containing the proper notices and waivers to be filed in lieu of a physical appearance. Where someone is under the counsel of their lawyer, it works better, it is more efficient, and it certainly is easier for everyone involved. It can only be used when the detainee has previously entered a not guilty plea in county court. This part of the amendment is intended to clarify existing practice. The second portion of the amendment requires the retention of the original videotape of the arraignment proceeding until all appeals have been concluded. The original language would have allowed the destruction of the tape after the passage of one year. It only makes sense to keep the tape while appeals are pending, some of which may take more than a year. I would urge the adoption of the committee amendments and the advancement of LB 623. I thank you.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Debate on the committee amendments? Senator Brashear, you're recognized to close. He waives closing. The question before the body is shall the committee amendments be adopted. All those in favor vote aye, all those