

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

April 14, 1999 LB 299

dealing substantial amounts of cocaine, crack cocaine and heroin were increased to Class IB, IC, and ID felonies, which imposed tougher minimum sentences on persons convicted for such use. Although dealing more than seven ounces of methamphetamine was increased to a Class II felony at the time, the penalties for methamphetamine remained lower than those for cocaine and for heroin. Senator Peterson, in her opening, has demonstrated convincingly, as she did to the Judiciary Committee, and...that the abuse of methamphetamines in Nebraska is at least as serious, if not more serious, than the abuse of cocaine, crack cocaine and heroin. Abuse of methamphetamines is equally as destructive. Manufacture is more destructive to Nebraska because it takes place locally, is extremely dangerous, and produces toxic chemical waste. Dealing has become more common in many parts of Nebraska than dealing in cocaine or in heroin. It's appropriate that criminal penalties, such as these proposed, of a similar magnitude to that for heroin and for cocaine be adopted. I urge the advancement of LB 299 and I thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Brashear, I'm going to recognize you for a motion to recess.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, I move that we recess until 1:30 p.m., this date.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Heard the motion. The question before the body is, shall we recess? All those in favor say aye. Those opposed say nay. We're recessed.

RECESS

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Good afternoon and welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. Members, would you please record your presence so we can begin this afternoon's activities. Roll call. Please record.