

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

May 13, 1999

LB 637

his amendment, then we can take it piece-by-piece, if necessary, and deal with it as analytically and responsibly as we should. But that's the approach I would rather take instead of that being offered by Senator Brown's amendment, with all due respect to Senator Brown, because some of her provisions I would undoubtedly agree to also, but not in the form that they exist in the totality of her amendment.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Janssen, please.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Waivers are one thing, but I believe that I would like to call this, not a waiver, but an extension process. And I believe we could...we can work something that is going to give us a chance to get an extension. You know, as Senator Chambers has alluded to a week or so ago, you know, why do we want to mess with a system that we believe is working right now. And I believe that the state of Nebraska, the efficiency process that is judged by the government is about 60...60 percent. Well the national average is in the twenties, some percentile. So, you see, when...if we had...if we were at that rate of twenty-some percent, I would say, boy, you know, something should have been done a long time ago. We've got a system that's working right now. That's when it's kind of hard, that's when it's kind of hard to change something. And, Senator Brown, I applaud you for the hard work you've done on this. You've spent hours and hours on it. But we've...we've jockeyed around, from one meeting to another and so on. And I've, you know, I've yet...a compromise is something, you know, I don't know that we've ever come to a compromise on anything, and we probably never will entirely when you're dealing with an issue as important as this. The question was brought up a little while ago about how many counties are in this one system. If it...the county official that I spoke to, I believe it's 53 counties that are on the JUSTICE system right now. I think it was Senator Quandahl that asked that question. But there are 53 counties already on this. Whether this is the best system I don't know, never been involved with it. But if 53 counties, out of the 93, are on it right now, it seems to me that that is probably the one we should go with. That can be negotiated also. But I think with the Kristensen amendment, in my opinion, we've got something that is very simple, it's