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LB 638, 865

studies and the work which those professionals discussed with us in great detail at the legislative symposium. The task force, as it is proposed by the committee amendment, would include a representative of the Parole Board, the Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, the Nebraska Correctional Treatment Center, the Department of Health and Human Services Protection and Safety Division, the Division of Alcoholism, Drug Abuse and Addiction Services of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Probation Administration, the Office of Community Justice, the director of Policy Research, the parole administrator, and two members of the Legislature. Also, the Governor would be required, and of course requested, to appoint ten additional persons to this task force. The task force would then study and determine a statewide unified strategy to address substance abuse treatment for persons in adult and juvenile criminal justice system and facilities. The task force would hold public hearings and otherwise receive input from the public, and the task force would report its findings to the Governor and the Legislature no later than December 1, 1999. They would also develop and recommend a standardized, and let me also add the word "uniform", substance abuse evaluation and assessment process and procedures by January 1, 2000. They would be allowed to hire a consultant for the purposes of developing such instruments. That is what will remain and be the subject of LB 865, if I can beseech you to accommodate a few things procedurally as we move forward. If you'll adopt the Brashear amendment to the committee amendments and then the committee amendments, that and that alone is what we will be dealing with. With that, I would like to yield the remainder of the time back to Senator Dwite Pedersen.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Pedersen.

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, and thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Brashear has explained very eloquently what the LB 638, which is now an amendment to LB 865, would do. Many of you came to me after the presentation by the people on this task force at the symposium and said, that was the best presentation we've had at this symposium and the most interesting. The people who did that presentation are representatives of the substance abuse field; corrections, in three different areas, both their