

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

March 8, 2000

LB 1004

against Latino citizens in our state of Nebraska. Senator Chambers, do you think that's a realistic fear?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR HILGERT: And I have not seen any language that dealt with that issue. There was an offer made. I don't believe I can support this bill the way it is. I would have supported it had the committee counsel or someone gone through and offered some amendments to the bill, but that concerns me an awful lot. And one more point that concerns me is, for example, in Louisiana I believe your drunk driving convictions last five years. If this bill goes back from the past twelve years, you could actually get penalized for something that if you were in Louisiana you wouldn't be penalized for.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: True.

SENATOR HILGERT: So there's a lot of flaws. The concept certainly is valid. The concept is legitimate and may even be approaching meritorious but, frankly, the way that the bill is right now and there is so much doubt in my mind, at least, about some of the problems that I see in the bill, I'm going to have a hard time supporting this bill. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hilgert. Senator Don Pederson on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body, first of all, I understood that when we were discussing this on the first round that Senator Chambers was not exactly thrilled with the whole project, but he did do a lot of work in trying to work an amendment, and then he and I worked together and developed the language that he read to you in an effort to make it clearer just exactly what we were trying to accomplish. So the section that deals particularly with determining what kind of a law are we talking about that may have been the result from a prior conviction that we are enhancing a penalty for, and that it's pretty clear, I think, now in the way it's worded. Under the law of another state, if at the time of the conviction under the law of such other state, the offense for which the person was convicted would have been a violation under the law