

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

April 5, 2000

LB 972

it won't work that we're not saying, hey, how can we do this? This is a beautiful opportunity to try to provide 30 or 40 jobs to rural Nebraskans, and yet we're just saying adamantly, well, it can't be done. It's unworkable. But nobody has come up with a reason as to why. They are just saying we can't do it. To say that there is no accountability or that we couldn't structure some accountability on the part of the State Treasurer for the collection center is wrong. We can do it. This amendment simply says that the call center will be located in a rural county, and I have yet to hear any reason why there would be no accountability or why this would not work. If they have evidence or reasons or anything along those lines, give me some concrete evidence.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR BOURNE: I mean, say it, why is this a problem?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Brashear, on the Bourne amendment.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I think there is a precedent, I'm supposed to do some sort of imitation of someone at this point, at least I've heard that, but I don't know how. So, (laugh) I'm only going to do that which I'm able. Senator Kristensen, to answer your question, your Judiciary Committee doesn't have a crystal ball in this whole processing anymore than anybody else, but it is fair to say that we always contemplated the SDU as a unit, the customer service as a unit, and while we didn't think in terms...at least, speaking for myself, I didn't think in terms of physical location, we saw them as two organized units. We saw the necessity for integration, cooperation, and responsibility, and I've always supported the concept that the person who is going to do the receiving and the disbursing ought to also be responsible for the customer service because all of us had some concerns about the efficiency and whatever with which all of this would be taken over and done, so that was a part of the system. My problem, my problem, Senator Bourne, with all due respect, I appreciate the effort, this being the rural session of my existence, and I say that with a smile, but later on it will become, (laugh) it'll become, I think, abundantly apparent