

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 30, 2005      LB 130, 361

noisy in here. So if you would, please, show respect for the Clerk and the speaker. Senator Bourne, would you review LB 361?

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. As the Clerk mentioned, this is the first committee priority bill. The bill was divided into four sections. The first two sections were adopted. And Mr. President, if you'd allow me, I'll just go ahead and open on the third section of the divided committee amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may do so.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you. Members, this third component of the divided committee amendment is LB 130, introduced by Senator Brown. Essentially, LB 130 repealed LB 625...it would repeal LB 625, which is an act relating to housing discrimination complaint procedures, that was passed last year. The language in LB 625 resulted in the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission being out of compliance with federal HUD requirements, thus making the commission ineligible for a federal housing discrimination contract. As reflected in the committee amendment, LB 130 brings the Nebraska Fair Housing Act into compliance with federal HUD law. The amendment exempts from public release all records compiled in the course of conciliation activities related to housing discrimination investigations. It limits access to information derived from an investigation until after the investigation is complete. Current law allows the aggrieved party or respondent access to these records at any time. Any information released is subject to the Federal Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, and any other federal or state law limiting the release of confidential information. The committee amendment reflects the suggestions forwarded to us by HUD. And Senator Brown has an amendment to the committee amendment which is a compromise that I believe carries out the intent of LB 130, brings us into compliance with HUD, and goes no further. And that is what the committee amendment does, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Brown would move to amend this