

March 28, 1984

LB 803

the list from the motor vehicles for each county, they sit down then with a small group of people that they can hire, each one of them can hire a small group during the summer months, give some of the people that like to get a few dollars of part-time work in, get them a job of putting the list together and checking out those that have an address one way on their voter registration, another way on their driver's license, get all of that cleaned up at one time and have a good purged drivers...I'm sorry a voters registration list, and have the broad base from which to select a jury. Now I wanted to bring that to your attention because of the fact that some election commissioners have said they are reluctant to do this. They are not objecting to the bill itself or any feature of the bill, they frankly are just saying they don't want to do the work. I might remind you that the chairman of the Republican Party for the State of Nebraska came in and testified in favor of doing this. The chairman of the Democratic Party of the State of Nebraska came in and testified in favor of doing this so we have both party leader positions supporting the bill. There are 14 states that do select their jury from this kind of a list, Iowa and Colorado are the two adjoining states that do it this way and I would suggest that we go ahead and do it this way. I move they advance the bill 803.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Barrett.

SENATOR BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Despite the fact that the two major parties in the state have endorsed the bill, I reluctantly rise to oppose my neighbor, Senator Goodrich. This bill in its original form was in fact no problem and anybody could support it because it was an optional situation. The Standing Committee amendments now make the bill mandatory. Every county in the state will have to comply with the requirements of 803 if passed in its present form. This is a situation which will create a very onerous burden on many of our counties, particularly the smaller counties. I can understand why Douglas County and perhaps Lancaster County would like the bill. I have heard from many clerks of the district court, many jury commissioners who are adamantly opposed to the bill now in its present form. I tried to get prepared an