

This bill, Senator Lynch will explain, deals with trying to flag records at schools and in the Bureau of Vital Statistics so we can help to track down missing children. Right now, the bill refers to missing children as either abducted, lost or as runaways, and in some cases runaways are simply upset with their parents or something and run away and go to a friend's house, or something. And the thought was the Lincoln police did oppose the bill because of the inclusion of "runaway", that there were 1300 instances in Lincoln where they would have to be flagging these records and, in fact, there wasn't really any abduction or anybody had actually been missed. And so to save the expense and probably unnecessarily go through this procedure, we delete the word "runaway". And, with that, the bill is in fine shape, so I would ask for support for the committee amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. On the committee amendments, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers waives. Any other discussion? Any other questions? If not, the question is, shall the amendments be adopted? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have all voted who care to vote? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The committee amendments are adopted. Back to the bill, Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes. Mr. Speaker and members, some of you may remember the Joubert case in Sarpy County when Danny Joe Eberly and Christopher Walden were missing. The unfortunate reality of it all wasn't aware to most people, and as a result of that, about 150 policemen spent weeks and weeks trying to determine whether or not they were just missing or worse than that. This bill deals with that kind of a problem. In the State of Nebraska right now, there are 180 cases, computerized cases of missing children. It's an important and a serious problem. What this bill would simply do, it would require law enforcement agencies to notify the State Patrol of reported missing children and then to require the patrol to notify the Bureau of Vital Statistics which would be responsible for flagging the birth certificates. The bill requires that a school notify of a missing child to flag the record of that child. And, additionally, the bill would require the schools to request from the students enrolling in the school for the first time only a certified copy of his or her birth certificate and also requires the schools to request from schools previously attended, by