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our committee last year dealing with abandoned vehicles. There was a strong feeling that some statutes needed to be addressed with respect to some problems, Senator Cudaback mentioned a couple of them, the inability of the State Patrol to take possession of a vehicle and tow it away that might be abandoned by the side of the highway and having always to refer that to a local law enforcement agency. Then the inability of the local agencies to process these vehicles or have a method of processing them in a fairly expeditious way. Douglas County, Omaha in particular, came in and expressed a great frustration with the volumes of cars that they tried to deal with that are deemed to be abandoned cars. So we worked on the bill last year and I think had it in fairly good shape, but there wasn't time to deal with it, so Senator Cudaback came back this year and we were coming back with the committee's work product. This bill would allow state agencies, including the State Patrol, to tow and, in some circumstances, dispose of abandoned vehicles. It creates a new category of abandoned vehicles which creates a means for investigative and law enforcement agencies to clear out vehicles that are seized for investigative purposes. Now these are vehicles which have been left for 30 days in the custody of a law enforcement agency after the agency has sent, to the last registered owner, a certified letter informing the owner that the vehicle is no longer needed for investigative purposes. However, I want to stress that you know we have the criminal forfeiture statute dealing with vehicles that are forfeited for drug purposes.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** (Gavel.) Members, if you could please hold your conversations down, we need to hear the committee amendments.

**SENATOR BROMM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I cannot imagine that there's conversation more exciting than abandoned vehicles. But, if there is, I wish I was a part of it. But in any event, I was...I wanted to stress that this committee amendment and LB 90 does not in any way effect the criminal forfeiture statutes that pertain to vehicles that are seized as part of a drug bust or something like that. It does not pertain to that. This does expand the options which a government entity has to dispose of abandoned vehicles, by allowing them to auction them, to sell them, to actually give a notice and keep the vehicle for