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and advanced from the Judiciary Committee 8 to 0. What it does is it creates the offense of domestic assault. Currently in Nebraska, under anybody that's assaulted under domestic violence, they're charged under the regular assault categories. What this seeks out to do is recognize domestic violence as a separate crime, and give it a separate crime. The penalties parallel those of the assault categories. It establishes first-degree, second-degree, and third-degree domestic assault. It also defines what "intimate partners" are, and also includes dating relationships. It provides that a peace officer may arrest without a warrant for a misdemeanor domestic assault, whether or not the crime occurs in the officer's presence. It provides that the officers may seize firearms in plain view, pursuant to a consensual search, to protect the officer or the other person. It provides that a judge shall order a presentence investigation upon sentencing, or prior to that. It also acknowledges the fact of sexual assault can occur in a domestic relationship. There's a kind of a "misconsumption"... a misinterpretation that if you're married you can't be sexually assaulted while you're married. What this does is defines that you can be sexually assaulted while you're married. It also allows the county attorneys to issue subpoenas for phone records. A lot of times, threats are made over the phone, and those are valuable when it comes to court proceedings. It provides prosecutors, probation officers, and law enforcement throughout the state of Nebraska shall have to adopt and implement written policies regarding domestic violence. Through July 1 of 2002 through June 30 of 2003, there were 7,196 cases domestic violence. Thirty-seven percent of those were physical; 36 percent of those were verbal. What this says is that we have a problem with domestic violence in the state of Nebraska. Earlier, a couple of weeks ago, Senator Brashear referred to domestic violence as a plague in Nebraska. And I would agree with that. I can't count how many domestic violence calls I've responded to, thousands and thousands, ranging from homicides, to people trying to kill their own children, to people literally killing their own children. Also what I passed out--because listing the proponents would have been impossible on the computer, and for time's sake, during the Judiciary Committee hearing, these were additional support letters that were issued. Virtually every city council and county board within Douglas and