

respect to Senator Schmit's initial language. Now at the hearing of the bill why Senator Hannibal brought to the committee an amendment that he had previously printed and previously given broad distribution dealing with the joint custody issue. Now as I understand the reason Senator Hannibal brought this joint custody issue to us is because of a decision in the Nebraska Supreme Court called Trimble v. Trimble handed down in July of 1984 where the Supreme Court in that decision promulgated some highly restrictive language in terms of the circumstances under which joint custody was to be allowed. Now let me just indicate briefly what joint custody is and I'm sure you understand it already, but let me just for the record say that joint custody is a custody arrangement made and approved by the court at the time a marriage is dissolved which gives the parents joint custody over a child as opposed to giving a child custody with one parent with either restrictive or liberal visitation rights by the other. The law in the State of Nebraska up to the point of the Trimble decision has been to give the trial courts wide latitude in determining whether or not there should be joint custody arrangements. The Trimble case significantly cut back on that. Senator Hannibal brought this amendment to the committee suggesting that we reinstate the law in the State of Nebraska as it was prior to the Trimble decision. The committee agreed with Senator Hannibal, made some minor changes in Senator Hannibal's language and then advanced the bill as I understand it with Senator Schmit's blessing to include this joint custody language as well. And you'll be able to see that joint custody language. It consists of about seven lines of new language. It's in the committee amendment pasted inside your bill book on LB 612. So with that, Mr. Speaker, that is an explanation of the committee amendments to LB 612. Since the committee voted the bill out I have conferred with Senator Hannibal and prepared some amendments to the committee amendments also which we can take up when the Speaker would like.

SPEAKER NICHOL: We'd just as well take it up now.

CLERK: Senator Hoagland, then if...you do wish to withdraw the two. Actually you've blended them if I'm not mistaken, Senator. (Hoagland amendment appears on page 2017 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yeah. I have had these two amendments