

Lamb's amendment found on page 846. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Were you through, Senator Hefner?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Senator Hoagland, please, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Let me try and give you all some background with respect to Senator Lamb's amendment. Senator Lamb's underlying bill came out of the Judiciary Committee with no dissenting votes and is on consent calendar. And before Senator Lamb and I...before Senator Lamb went into the hospital, he and I discussed the possibility of bringing this in as an amendment to LB 529. Now, since Senator Lamb's hospitalization, there have been two developments with respect to this particular concept. Let me say it is an excellent idea. But those developments are that, number one, we have a fiscal note and my staff is now trying to find the fiscal note for us that, to my recollection, is substantially in excess of \$200,000. And, number two, we have a resolution by the Probation Systems Department opposing this particular concept. I think it is an excellent idea. The problem is, if it has a fiscal note of 200 to \$300,000, I am deeply concerned that it may bog down a bill that otherwise is very important and needs to pass this year because it contains provisions pertaining to clerk magistrates that are very important. What I was going to suggest to Senator Lamb when he got back from the hospital was that he and I work together to seek another vehicle for purposes of this particular amendment that is not as important a bill to the operation of the judiciary as this particular bill is. Again, I have no quarrel with the concept whatsoever. It is an excellent idea. Senator Lamb and I worked out the idea together but the problem is that it is going to cost, I think, more than we can probably afford this year and certainly carries a cost with it that would be inappropriate to place in LB 529. So what I would suggest once again is that we pass this over and have an opportunity to discuss it and see if we can't resolve this issue in some other fashion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. You know, when