

of Nebraska is involved, or a city, they are viewed differently. They are viewed differently because of the Tort Claims Act as far as notice requirements, the limitation on the statute of limitations. I'm not quite sure why that was different in the law, why it was not viewed the same since the negligent action that occurred was...the party that was injured was the one we were really concerned about and not so much the person that was doing the injury because of their negligent action. And, as a result, the law, for whatever reason, Senator Lindsay offered a pretty good analysis of it dating back to the time of England, that they were viewed differently in the eyes of the law. What this bill provides for is a uniform statute of limitations so that there is no traps in the law, there is no inconsistencies in the law. I think that ever since I've been in the Nebraska Legislature we've always worked to try to provide a uniform system of justice in this state so that if someone lives in Scottsbluff or in Aurora or in Lincoln or Omaha, any city within the state, they had a uniform system that they deal with, and that's the way our state laws are established, so that justice is uniform. But when we get to the issue of a negligent action that has been committed by, let's say a Department of Roads worker, that is viewed differently in the eyes of the law because of the law's statute of limitations. That person would not be able to file their action and actually what it has, in my opinion, what it has resulted in is increased litigation because instead of trying to work towards a settlement, which sometimes takes a little bit of time, that person has been forced to go into litigation immediately. He's had to go out and hire an attorney, pay that attorney a fee, and then as a result he has had to go into court, which has caused great trauma to the person that's been injured. Now, I think the best possible world would be something that we wouldn't have to have these types of litigated situations occur, but sometimes they do happen and, as a result, we try to make them as easy for the person that has been injured. What this bill provides for is a uniform system of statute of limitations involving actions against the State of Nebraska and against political subdivisions. I would be happy to answer any questions.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Abboud. Discussion? Senator Kristensen.

**SENATOR KRISTENSEN:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislature, I rise...it's amazing on LB 262, this is the number of the bill that you remember we've had for the last two years,