

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2161

2007 SENATE JUDICIARY

SB 2161

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SB 2161

Senate Judiciary Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: January 12, 2007

Recorder Job Number: 1129

Committee Clerk Signature

Mona L. Solberg

Minutes: Relating to registration of sex offenders, computerized sexual registration sites.

Senator David Nething, Chairman called the Judiciary committee to order. All Senators were present. The hearing opened with the following testimony:

Testimony In Support of Bill:

Sen. Robinson, Dist #24 – Introduced the bill (meter :08) This bill would put computerized registration in 10 sites in the 10 largest counties in ND. We have 1100 sex offenders, this includes the state hospital. Discussed fiscal impact of bill. We have 154 High risk sex offenders and the difficulty of tracking them. This bill will help with the “cracks” in the system are. The difficulty in the current verification process, this bill would put part of the burden on the offender to check in. Currently we are always trying to find them. Sited situations.

Sen. Nething asked if the only changes were in page 6? Yes that is the only new language.

Warren Emmer –Dir. Of Dept of Corrections Field Service Div. (meter 9:20) Gave Testimony – Att. # 1.

Sen. Nething questioned the location of the Kiosks. Discussion of locations being open 24 hrs/day and in a location that an officer can come out and talk to the individual if they need to.

Discussion on of statistics and the “2 week gap” the offenders. Discussion of what other states do.

Sen. Nething asked about the budget and how much was “start-up” money. 1 Million with \$800 thousand in start up fees.

Todd Dahle, Captain of Fargo Police Dept. (meter 15:14) Gave his testimony in support of the bill. The idea is to put some of the burden back on the offender. Gave details on reporting process and the difficulty they face trying to contact them. Many choose not to tell us of the forwarding address, it may be months till we find out. Another crack is people coming from another state to ND or “newly released” inmates. Discussion of finger prints and current photos.

Rick Majerus, Cass County Sheriffs office – (meter 19:00) Gave his testimony in support of the bill. Spoke of being on the “Governors Task Force” and how this bill would help with some of the major issues/concerns of the task force. His department handles 35 sex offenders. Sen. Olafson asked how often they would have to check in (meter 21:34) – It depended on what “level” they were. He also questioned what the down side of this bill would be. Cpt. Majerus stated that if you relied on this system alone and did not do “home visits” also.

Debra Ness, Bismarck Police Chief (meter 24:46) Stated that this kiosk system also ties into the CJIS system and will enable several departments to communicate with the individuals activities.

Jonathan Byers, Attorney General’s office (meter 25:28) We are in support of this bill. It is important to spend the money and do it the right way. AFIS & CJUS (finger print and criminal justice) systems combined. We do not have to depend on an office or location to “down load” the information, it is automatically done.

Keith Witt, Bismarck Police Dept. Chief spoke (meter 27:34) of his support also discussed his concerns with the homeless or the difficulties newly released individuals have finding a place.

Sen. Nelson asked how many offenders and what locations they were (meter 30:29) review of this.

Additional Testimony Submitted:

John Olson – ND Peace Officers Assoc. Att., #2

Testimony in Opposition of the Bill:

None

Testimony Neutral to the Bill:

None

Senator David Nething, Chairman closed the hearing.

Sen. Nelson made the motion to Do Pass SB 2161 and refer to appropriations, **Sen. Lyson**

seconded the motion all members were in favor and the bill passes

Carrier: **Sen. Lyson**

FISCAL NOTE
 Requested by Legislative Council
 03/08/2007

Amendment to: Engrossed
 SB 2161

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2005-2007 Biennium		2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures				\$1,046,080	\$262,236	
Appropriations				\$1,046,080	\$262,236	

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2005-2007 Biennium			2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

As amended the bill provides for an appropriation for 10 kiosk sites if federal funds are available - for a study in the event federal funds are unavailable.

B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

If federal funds are available for the sex offender registration kiosk project, one FTE is needed to help develop and maintain the system. Whether federal funds are available is unknown. General fund support will be needed in the 2009-11 biennium to maintain this project.

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

N/A

B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

The appropriation in the bill reflects the amount of expenditures anticipated.

C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

The bill contains the projected appropriation required to implement this bill, assuming federal funds become available.

Name:	Kathy Roll	Agency:	Office of Attorney General
Phone Number:	328-3622	Date Prepared:	03/08/2007

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
02/14/2007

Amendment to: SB 2161

1A. **State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2005-2007 Biennium		2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures						
Appropriations						

1B. **County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2005-2007 Biennium			2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. **Bill and fiscal impact summary:** *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

The bill provides for a study in consultation with the Department of Corrections, Attorney General's office and other law enforcement agencies of computerized sex offender registration sites.

B. **Fiscal impact sections:** *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

N/A

3. **State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. **Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

N/A

B. **Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

N/A

C. **Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

N/A

Name:	Kathy Roll	Agency:	Office of Attorney General
Phone Number:	328-3622	Date Prepared:	02/14/2007

FISCAL NOTE
Requested by Legislative Council
01/22/2007

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2161

1A. State fiscal effect: *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	2005-2007 Biennium		2007-2009 Biennium		2009-2011 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
Revenues						
Expenditures			\$1,046,080		\$262,236	
Appropriations			\$1,046,080		\$262,236	

1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect: *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

2005-2007 Biennium			2007-2009 Biennium			2009-2011 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

2A. Bill and fiscal impact summary: *Provide a brief summary of the measure, including description of the provisions having fiscal impact (limited to 300 characters).*

The bill provides for the Attorney General to contract for and administer computerized sex offender registration kiosks at which sex offenders required to register can update their information for any name, school or address changes.

B. Fiscal impact sections: *Identify and provide a brief description of the sections of the measure which have fiscal impact. Include any assumptions and comments relevant to the analysis.*

The bill includes a \$1,046,080 general fund appropriation to carry out the requirements of this legislation.

3. State fiscal effect detail: *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

A. Revenues: *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

N/A

B. Expenditures: *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

This bill includes the anticipated appropriation needed to carry out the provisions of this bill. The bill includes the ten kiosks, kiosk software, changes to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) and the information repository to interact with the kiosks, Criminal Justice Improvement System (CJIS) changes needed to send messages regarding the sex offenders' registration, fingerprint device and software, one IT network position, and other related expenses.

C. Appropriations: *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency and fund affected. Explain the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations. Indicate whether the appropriation is also included in the executive budget or relates to a continuing appropriation.*

See Expenditures for appropriation explanation.

The general fund appropriation was not included in the Executive Recommendation.

Name:	Kathy Roll	Agency:	Office of Attorney General
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Phone Number: 328-3622

Date Prepared: 01/23/2007

Date: 1-15-07

Roll Call Vote # /

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2161

Senate _____ Judiciary _____ Committee _____

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do Pass & Refer to Approp.

Motion Made By Sen. Nelson Seconded By Sen Lyson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Sen. Nething	✓		Sen. Fiebiger	✓	
Sen. Lyson	✓		Sen. Marcellais	✓	
Sen. Olafson	✓		Sen. Nelson	✓	

Total Yes 6 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen Lyson

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 15, 2007 2:32 p.m.

Module No: SR-09-0586
Carrier: Lyson
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2161: Judiciary Committee (Sen. Nething, Chairman) recommends DO PASS and BE REREFERRED to the Appropriations Committee (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2161 was rereferred to the Appropriations Committee.

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

SB 2161

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2161

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 01/24/07

Recorder Job Number: 1765

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on SB 2161.

Senator Robinson introduced SB 2161 testifying in support of the bill. He indicated ND has 1100 sexual predators in various categories and this bill would establish ten computerized sexual predator registration sites throughout ND. The dollars in this bill would be appropriated to the Attorney General, three fourths of the initial cost would be used to purchase and set up kiosks in the major cities and the balance would be used to operate the equipment. In future bienniums we would be looking at using a different amount to continue operating the equipment. The offenders are required to register in the state and notification is to be made to the communities they reside in. Keeping track of these people is taxing on the law enforcement agencies. He described the information that would be entered into the system and the process that would be used.

Warren R. Emmer, Director, Department of Corrections Field Services Division, presented written testimony (1) in support of SB 2161, describing some select crimes, the new sex offender specialist parole officers, what enactment of SB 2161 would allow law enforcement to do, how the registration sites would impact law enforcement and stressed that the information obtained would be invaluable to law enforcement.

Senator Grindberg asked that Mr. Emmer create an illustration as to how this equipment would be implemented and asked what would make the sexual predators comply.

Senator Christmann asked if the offender was no longer on probation or the supervision reporting time had expired, what would inspire individuals to comply with registration, and how does the computer know if the individual is lying in response to specific questions.

Senator Robinson asked how law enforcement tracks these people now.

Todd Dahli, Police Captain , Fargo, indicated he has 150 offenders to keep track of and needs to visit them three times a year, most of the offenders are not under supervision and are transient.

Senator Mathern asked about locations of kiosks.

Senator Krauter questioned the attorney generals authority to go back and get people to register and what happens when offenders come from other states.

Senator Grindberg asked if this will be part of the national data base, has there been coordination with the national data base.

Rick Majerus, Captain, Cass County Sheriff, testified in support of SB 2161, indicating that he has 35 offenders in his county and checks on them 3-4 times a year. He indicated that it is not only the people living in ND that he checks on, but those living in other states and working in North Dakota.

Senator Mathern asked if it would be easier in rural areas if the offender had something on their body that would indicate their location.

Johnathan Byers, Attorney General, testified in support of SB 2161, indicating what the process is for the offenders registering, what triggers checking on the offender , what the difference would be if the kiosks are placed in operation and responded to several concerns.

Senator Mathern asked about the next level of technology

Senator Robinson asked about using the monitoring equipment 24 hours 7 days a week and would the costs be prohibitive.

Senator Krauter asked about the fiscal note and where the kiosks would be placed and if the Attorney Generals office can require different types of information without further legislation.

Senator Christman asked if there are any civil rights issues that need to be looked at and do we have access to put these on reservations.

Deborah Ness, Chief, Bismarck Police Department, testified in support of SB 2161 indicated she participated in the commission discussing the kiosks. Bismarck presently monitors 130 offenders and as a law enforcement agency Bismarck is not set up to do this type correctional work. She further gave background information as to what led to introducing this bill. In looking at this program, if someone registers at one site the information is available statewide.

Officer Derrick Zimmel, Grand Forks, testified in support of SB 2161, indicating he chases sex offenders and this system would enable officers to know if offenders are non-compliant. The hearing on SB 2161 closed.

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. 2161

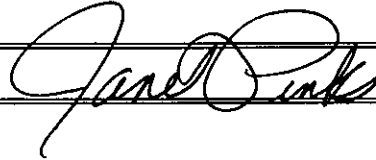
Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 02/12/07

Recorder Job Number: 3368

Committee Clerk Signature



Minutes:

Chairman Holmberg opened the hearing on SB 2161 and distributed amendments to be reviewed.

Senator Wardner moved a do pass on the amendment 0101. **Senator Kilzer** seconded.

Discussion followed indicating the sex offender situation is a serious issue. An oral vote was taken resulting in a do pass.

Senator Bowman moved a do pass on SB 2161 as amended. **Senator Christmann** seconded. No discussion was held. A roll call vote was taken resulting in 8 yes 6 no 0 absent. The bill will be carried by **Senator Kilzer**.

Chairman Holmberg closed the hearing on SB 2161.

Date: 2/12
Roll Call Vote #:

2007 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2161

Senate Appropriations Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken DP as Amend

Motion Made By Bowman Seconded By Christmann

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Ray Holmberg, Chrm	✓		Senator Aaron Krauter		✓
Senator Bill Bowman, V Chrm	✓		Senator Elroy N. Lindaas		✓
Senator Tony Grindberg, V Chrm	✓		Senator Tim Mathern		✓
Senator Randel Christmann	✓		Senator Larry J. Robinson		✓
Senator Tom Fischer	✓		Senator Tom Seymour		✓
Senator Ralph L. Kilzer	✓		Senator Harvey Tallackson		✓
Senator Karen K. Krebsbach	✓				
Senator Rich Wardner	✓				

Total (Yes) 9 No 6

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Kilzer

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2161: Appropriations Committee (Sen. Holmberg, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS (8 YEAS, 6 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2161 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, after "A BILL" replace the remainder of the bill with "for an Act to provide for a legislative council study of the feasibility and desirability of implementing a system of computerized registration sites for criminal offenders.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - COMPUTERIZED REGISTRATION SITES FOR CRIMINAL OFFENDERS. The legislative council shall consider studying, during the 2007-08 interim, in consultation with the department of corrections and rehabilitation, attorney general's office, and other law enforcement agencies, the feasibility and desirability of implementing a system of computerized registration sites for certain criminal offenders."

Renumber accordingly

2007 HOUSE JUDICIARY

SB 2161

2007 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Bill/Resolution No. SB 2161

House Judiciary Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Hearing Date: 3/5/07

Recorder Job Number: 4312

Committee Clerk Signature

DeMorse

Minutes:

Chairman DeKrey: We will open the hearing on SB 2161.

Sen. Larry Robinson: Sponsor (see attached testimony).

Rep. Delmore: How did you choose the number of 10 kiosks?

Sen. Larry Robinson: The number was, perhaps, a bit arbitrary but we have 10 cities that are typically identified as the largest cities in ND, they are spread out geographically across the state and we felt that those 10 locations would provide reasonable means of access to the kiosk. Now some on the Senate side, let's just do one on a pilot. The fact is you invest the money anyway. It is an economy of scale, you need the system in place, and you're not saving much, if any money. So the proposal was 10 cities, the largest 10 cities in the state and we would go from there. Not to say that there aren't predators in rural ND, but basic employment in most cases goes to the 10 metropolitan areas across the state of ND.

Rep. Delmore: Are there any neighboring states that have these kiosks.

Sen. Larry Robinson: I don't believe we have neighboring states, but I do know that we have states that we can reference. Maryland is one and there are others. I don't have that information with me that have implemented systems such as this and frankly, have found them to be very effective. I might add that this technology opens the door for a host of other

applications, but that kind of clouds the picture right now. The emphasis here is sexual predators, but we have 5,000 folks on parole and probation. We're on the verge of breaking at the seams in that area; 5,000, that's growing by 50 or 60 every month. Down the road, that might be another application of this technology.

Rep. Delmore: Who will man the kiosks, who will pick up the cost of that?

Sen. Larry Robinson: I can't speak to that specifically, but Chief Ness from the Bismarck PD and Mr. Kimmet from BCI is here that can speak to the specifics on how the bill would work. The price tag is accurate and for that we have our installation and ability to maintain the system for the next two year time period.

Rep. Delmore: Is there a possibility of tying the kiosks also to the tracking of the sexual offenders. It is one of the things we talked about last session, as far as where their position and exact location, and so on.

Sen. Larry Robinson: I am going to defer that to Chief Ness. The application here, I was intrigued in visiting with folks from local law enforcement. They want to do a better job. They are limited by resources. If we're not going to provide more resources in terms of FTE's, this is a very good option that would allow us to better utilize the resources we have. Once again, now we're trying to track and make contact with all of these folks across the state. They're not going to forget about those that register and check in at the kiosk, but they can devote more of their resources to those that don't, or those that provide false information. Keep in mind that we have folks traveling through the state all the time; it is a highly mobile population. Clearly, this issue is on everyone's radar screen. We have another bill this morning, folks the time is now. I hope that we not put this off and take a look at it. We know the issue, we know the risk, we know the problem, here's the solution.

The tape could not be heard due to battery failure of microphone.

Rep. Koppelman: You're saying that we have all these people who are supposed to be registered, some are not registering, these kiosks would give them an easier option to register, is that essentially the purpose.

Sen. Larry Robinson: As I understand it, we would put ourselves in the situation where law enforcement would include that as part of the agreement for your parole and probation. It's subject to your regular contact with this kiosk. If you fail to do that, we can bring you back in under our direct control. It provides that means, we're not talking 50 or 60 here, we're talking several hundred and it's a growing population.

Rep. Koppelman: But they are required to register now, as you mentioned earlier, that those who do not register you go out and track down. Are we talking strictly about a personnel cost here in saying this is easier, but it is mechanized or something.

Sen. Larry Robinson: I follow your question. I don't have the exact answer; I am going to defer that to Mr. Kimmet and Chief Ness. They can talk about the requirements that are in place right now. I think you will find that there are some loopholes in the system, largely due to resources and realistically, how many can we track. This technology will greatly enhance our ability to keep a handle on a significantly larger percentage of that population.

Chairman DeKrey: Thank you. Further testimony in support.

Charles Placek, for Warren Emmer, DOCR: (see attached testimony).

Rep. Delmore: Who would man the kiosks?

Charles Placek: I defer to Chief Ness.

Rep. Klemin: The money, where will it come from.

Charles Placek: Recently, additional federal funding from DOJ will be coming down the line concerning the Adam Walsh federal bill, which will help in gathering information and results in a better registration. That information has been made available to us at the Interstate

Commission for Adult Offender Supervision, which is the interstate compact of offenders going across parole and probation across state lines. An independent committee of that commission took a look at sex offenders traveling across state lines. As a result of that committee, and the information that they are gathering, it is estimated that there will be funds.

Rep. Wolf: Where will the kiosks be located?

Charles Placek: It is my understanding that they will register in the sheriff or police lobbies. We want to get that automated line on the state's backbone for technology.

Chairman DeKrey: Thank you. Further testimony in support.

Chief Deborah Ness, Bismarck Police Department: The offender should be responsible to come to law enforcement and register. This system would mean real time information – law enforcement would still check on them but this would enable them to pursue the ones that don't register and track them down. We would put the kiosk in the law enforcement lobby and it was talked about to put one at the prison where the prisoners could be trained on the system before they leave the prison. This would fall under CJIS. ND would be the first state to register sex offenders in this manner.

Rep. Delmore: What is the percentage or # of people who aren't registered?

Chief Ness: That is hard to track; sex offenders usually don't have an address. Unless they come to our attention through some other means, it is hard to find them.

Rep. Delmore: Who will be monitoring the kiosks?

Chief Ness: It would be a collaborative effort, the computer would be set up to notify us when they input false information, and then we would follow up.

Rep. Koppelman: What is the primary purpose, machine vs. person?

Chief Ness: It will allow local agencies to use their manpower more efficiently, because there are 121 registered sex offenders who are low risk, we wouldn't have to put time into tracking

them, because they would come in and use the kiosk on a regular basis. This would allow us the time to be able to track the moderate and high risk offenders who don't register on a timely basis. This would also allow us to have evidence to show to the court if we have to bring them in.

Rep. Koppelman: This is required now, would the kiosk improve the efficiency.

Chief Ness: It is a burden on law enforcement now; the kiosk will be available to the community and will be linked to all cities across the state, to track them faster in real time.

Rep. Koppelman: Could this be done on line for less cost.

Chief Ness: We did look at a system where a stand alone computer would be used, but it wouldn't be capable to be hooked into CJIS system and track across the state. CJIS is the backbone. Also the offender would have to have access to a computer, and sometimes they aren't allowed to have access to a computer as part of their probation or parole.

Rep. Klemin: Are kiosks available, it was testified earlier that ND would be the first to use this system.

Chief Ness: States use the kiosks now, and they are available, ND would be the first state to use it for sex offender registration and tracking.

Rep. Klemin: With new computer programming, there is a learning curve, and what happens when they break down, will there be instruction.

Chief Ness: We are hoping that there would be a kiosk at DOCR so that they would learn the system before they leave the prison system. They would learn it under supervision. If there was equipment failure, it would be fixed.

Rep. Charging: If they aren't checking in, is there a penalty; whether it be by kiosk or not. How would this change that?

Chief Ness: It would be used as evidence for courts, for a person to be charged and revoked.

Rep. Charging: Obviously they are taking a risk now by not registering. Will these ease up?

Chief Ness: This is one more tool for us to use to track the sex offenders and use our resources more efficiently.

Rep. Delmore: How would you track more serious offenders who don't check in?

Chief Ness: We physically go out and check on the high and moderate risk offenders.

Rep. Delmore: There aren't tracking devices on people.

Chief Ness: There could be a containment group where they would be electronically monitored. There are 22 across the state now.

Rep. Delmore: So it lets you know when they leave the area.

Chief Ness: They are required to let us know if they move.

Rep. Boehning: Does registering depend on the level of risk.

Chief Ness: We would like to see it be a part of their sentencing and we make a recommendation to the court.

Rep. Boehning: Are these used around the country, what would be the timeline.

Chief Ness: We want to have this accomplished before they are released, that way they would know how to enter the information, etc. It should take less time for them to enter the information than before, when we had to interview them in person and enter the information at that time. This should cut down on that.

Rep. Boehning: What is the timeline for the kiosk?

Chief Ness: The information would be in the computer; they come in and update it. It would take a matter of minutes, I don't foresee a problem.

