



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 623**

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**Chairperson:** Brad Ashford  
**Committee:** Judiciary  
**Date of Hearing:** March 7, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Currently, Nebraska law requires that those charged with misdemeanor domestic violence crimes receive a trial within six months of having a complaint filed against them by a prosecutor. Should a trial not occur within six months after the filing of a criminal complaint, a perpetrator can have his or her charges dismissed.

Often, police arrive at the scene of a misdemeanor domestic violence crime only to learn that the perpetrator has fled. Unable to find and arrest the perpetrator at the time, law enforcement must resort to the issuance of an arrest warrant in order to have legal cause for the arrest. A criminal complaint is then filed by the prosecutor in support of the arrest warrant. Not surprisingly, perpetrators frequently take measures to avoid being located and arrested. If a perpetrator is able to avoid arrest for six months, he or she is rewarded because the charges must be permanently dismissed.

LB 623 seeks to discourage perpetrators from evading prosecution by starting the six month period from the point in time a perpetrator is arrested on a warrant rather than from the point in time a prosecutor files a complaint.

**Principal Introducer:**

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**Senator Pete Pirsch**