

known of three youngsters who were killed by a handgun and it's not only a tragedy for that youngster and for that family, but for the sibling or for the friend or relative who actually shot the gun. This is not an onerous bill. I can't understand why people would get so excited about this bill. It's beyond my comprehension. All it requests is that guns be put in a safe, secure place. Senator Ashford passed out information called, "Child's Play", which talks about a study done for the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence and it examined 266 unintentional handgun shootings of children from May '86 to May '88 and you know what it said, it said that half of the unintentional handgun shootings studied occurred in the victim's home. The next most common places were the homes of friends and relatives. These children weren't carrying handguns. They picked them up, 50 percent of them, in the victim's home and 30 percent of them in a friend's home. Most common among the places where children found these guns were bedrooms where children found handguns on dressers, on closet shelves, in nightstands, between mattresses, under beds and under pillows. Next most common place was the living room. The study also said that in 40 percent of the cases the victim's parents owned the guns and in 28 percent of the cases the guns were owned by the friend's parents and relatives. I would just like to ask you to give Senator Ashford the courtesy to bring his bill to the floor where it can get a vote and a debate on the merits of the bill. It's an important issue and we should not let it languish in committee. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Speaker and members, I almost have to chuckle when I think about the arguments made that education can handle it. You know if that were the case, why not... why don't we do away with the DWI laws? Why not? You know we just educate people, if you drink too much and you kill somebody, you know, that's a problem. You shouldn't be prosecuted for something like that. Education ought to do it. You know, they teach it in schools and they grow up learning how to drive and they are told in their training programs on how to drive, that you shouldn't drink. That ought to take care of it. Now you shouldn't have to go by, when you go by a school and they got a limit of 20 miles an hour, 15 miles an hour, you shouldn't have to post a sign and arrest somebody because they violate that because there's enough education out there to make sure that, in fact, you had that right to do it. It seems to be a rights