

to do with a particular problem and that problem is shoplifting in the minds of so many is picking up the candy bar, the scarf or the earrings as he suggested but shoplifting is a pretty multibillion dollar business in this country and in this state. In fact, it far exceeds any amount you are going to lose by bank robberies right here in the State of Nebraska by many, many, many times. One of the problems is that professional shoplifters particularly deal with pretty high priced goods. They don't get the cheap earrings if they are getting earrings. They don't get the suit coat at the top end as my good friend Ernie suggested, they deal with a little heavier stuff and, yes, indeed, warehouses have been shoplifted some pretty heavy goods there. They would apply here. But let me read you a couple letters to show you some of the problems, what we are trying to correct. This one is from Sartor-Haman Jewelers. I've never been in that particular store but I understand they are a pretty respectable unit that has been here in Lincoln a good time. "Dear Senator DeCamp: I'm in favor of photographing of evidence held by the police department so we can recover our merchandise. We have numerous instances of merchandise that has been held for many months costing my company a great deal of money to loss of income by not being able to sell it. The most recent case we have had," and you can check with the police department on this by the way, "the most recent case we have had involved a theft of \$14,000 worth of rings by three out of state persons. The suspects were apprehended in western Nebraska after passing stolen credit cards. These people also held up a filling station in Geneva, Nebraska, and a gun store in Iowa. They were brought to Lincoln where two of the suspects were released for lack of evidence after about four months in the city jail and the third party was released on \$10,000 bail. The third party was a prostitute from Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with a line of previous offenses. The bail was only a small percentage of the \$10,000 and it was evident that the person would not return for trial. The county attorney office insisted that our merchandise be kept until it was certain that the individual would not return or be apprehended. My recollection was that our merchandise was tied up for over ten months at a time when interest rates were around 14%. This cost our firm at least \$1,500 or more by not having use of our merchandise. I, therefore, heartily endorse LB 126 in the photographing of evidence." Now the concept of photographing of evidence is not unique or novel. It is used in other states, Utah, Virginia, I don't know the whole list but they have developed this concept and photography is a pretty exact science. Now admittedly, admittedly a photograph is not identical to having right there the physical item but the elements in proving a crime go way beyond just proving the specific merchandise. Did so-and-so do it, so on and so forth? I think with the definition of