

searching my file, can we search our file, there is also a great picture here that was presented to me by Senator Chambers. It is a letter written by the National Rifle...well, actually, it is an envelope with the return address, National Rifle Association of America, and on the bottom of the...I should have this passed out to everyone...on the bottom of the envelope is a wonderfully accurate, I think, depiction or picture of Senator Chambers with the words "Ernie wants your guns and hopes you throw this envelope away", and I, also, was...I am so proud that last week the National Rifle Association sent out an alert with big letters about the size of this magazine here saying, "Brad Ashford is out to get your guns." I have been here 2 1/2 years and, finally, I have gotten larger publicity or more publicity than Senator Chambers has gotten on a controversial issue, and I feel I can now...I can retire and with great pride now that I have...I'm just kidding, of course. Just a second, we are trying to find...no, I am very serious, and a little bit of levity, but I am very serious about this amendment and I think that it is germane for the reason that these two issues go absolutely together. They absolutely interface. There is no question that these weapons, the AK-47 and the UZI, are the weapons of choice for the drug dealers. They don't particularly care what the cost of these weapons are, and they would be...at any time will use them in the furtherance of the illegal acts that they are performing in our cities and in our states and in our country, and we really need to address both issues because, even though I agree with Senator Abboud that we need to deal effectively with the drug problem, these weapons are still out there. They are out on the streets of Omaha. They are in the streets of every major city in the United States and, as a nation, it may not be germane specifically under the most technical reading of our rules, but, as a society, I think we need to stand up and make a public policy statement, and effective to show the people of this state that we are effectively dealing with a major problem.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: And if I just, if I would reiterate, there was an advertisement in the Lincoln paper advertising an AK-47, which you can buy in nine minutes for \$265, an AK-47 can shoot off 200 rounds of ammunition in less than two minutes. In Miami, Florida, recently, eight FBI agents were held off by one drug dealer with an AK-47, and five FBI agents were killed in the process, and we all know about the tragedy in Stockton. And