

SENATOR ABOUD: ...to put these people in prison and discourage other individuals from getting involved in this type of business enterprise. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Moore, please, then followed by Senator Nelson.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President and members, as a co-sponsor of LB 592, I, obviously, rise to oppose Senator Chambers' kill motion. But as is so often the case, there is a certain grain of truth in what Senator Chambers is saying. He is sitting here saying that we, as legislators and policymakers and politicians, all too often pass these bills like this, beat our chests and say, we've solved the problem, and he's right. This bill doesn't solve the problem. It helps attack the problem and, as I'm sitting here, I remembered a speech that Dr. Manley gave us in the New Horizons project last year. He talked about 100 years ago in the 1888 session of the Nebraska Legislature, told the story, first off, about how the mayor of Nebraska City said if he had to lock up everybody in town that was using drugs, it would be half the population, he'd have to run them through the jail like cattle because it would affect everybody. And many people said there was a survey done in the New York Times that said how over half the people in this country said that our nation was not going to make it to the turn of the century because of our drug problem. Well, as so often is the case, the Nebraska Legislature reacted that year and they passed a bill, quite innovatively, that said that one of the bills was that every classroom in the state, the teacher would have to teach a class on drugs. That was the Legislature's solution to that problem. When Governor Dawes, at the time, signed that bill, he said, this is our first step toward eradicating drug use in this country by the turn of the century. Well, that was 1900. We know we didn't eradicate drug use in any way, shape or form. Now because that didn't work then, are we to buy into what Senator Chambers is saying, saying we shouldn't do anything? Well, he's correct. We shouldn't say a bill like this is solving all the problems and is going to wipe out drug use because it's not. But the fact of the matter is, it also is similar to a situation we had in the early 1980s when Senator Haberman and others brought us legislation dealing with DWI and that year we passed a new Class W misdemeanor, Class W misdemeanor that specifically laid out the penalties for those found guilty of drunken driving. Now the same argument held true then, that we didn't need a special classification and