

other states have done this. Can you give statistics from any one of those states that indicates that there has been a lessening in the sale of drugs since that language such as what we're asking for now was put on the books?

SENATOR ABOUD: Senator Chambers, my study of the information was focusing in on the type of statutes that they had and which states had those particular statutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR ABOUD: My study didn't focus in on that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And I'd venture to say that if you do, you're going to find out it hasn't done anything because it starts with law enforcement. When you have certain drug houses, certain drug dealers, large suppliers, not being approached by law enforcement, it's because there have payoffs and in some cases involvement by the police themselves in the drug traffic. That may shock you all because you're novices in this. Omaha and Nebraska has had a drug problem for a lot of years, but it's just now encroaching on the white community and it is new to them. When crack was a new thing to them, it was old in the black community but it doesn't become a drug problem until white people begin to do it. That's the way all of the drug problems have been. When it's in the poor areas, it's never a problem. When they talk about, as Senator Abboud mentioned, increased law enforcement, they're putting more cops to work and the cops like it because there's more money paid into their overall pension fund, but they're not in a position to do anything to really attack the drug traffic because they are all concentrated in one community. You have to have a market sufficiently lucrative to justify the kind of drug traffic that we're talking about and although you find a lot o. victims, a lot of couriers, a lot of nickel and dime hustlers and sellers, the poor people in a community don't provide a big enough market to justify saying you have a serious drug problem. There are large scale drug users and drug dealers outside of the poor community who make a much bigger market and it is not being touched.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And it will not be touched. If we pass this bill, we give those people in law enforcement an excuse to sit back and say we've done what we could do and the Legislature