

helped but they will not change their tactics and go after the big fish. Go after the big ones. There are great white sharks, barracudas and piranhas out there and we're talking about minnows and you're going to catch them in a tea strainer a minnow at the time. You might can build a family one child at the time, but you're not going to stop the drug traffic or the drug problem one arrest at a time, especially when you're dealing with the little fish. So a lot of people might be recruited in the poor communities to be sellers and take the fall when somebody has to be caught, but getting them is not going to solve the problem because you have so many desperately poor people that they will do almost anything to get that money, including play lotteries. This is just one of the many forms of addiction that are put on poor people who are trying to get some money to make a living, not necessarily be a part of a criminal underworld structure that threatens to destroy the fabric of society.

PRESIDENT: Time. Senator Hefner, please, followed by Senator Ashford and Senator Abboud.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I wasn't going to talk on this issue but I decided maybe I should. And, Senator Chambers, I was hoping that you would help us out on this problem, but it seems like every time we introduce a bill to address this problem, well, you vote to kill it in committee or if it comes to the floor, well, you'll badger it and so we really don't get much accomplished. I realize there is no simple solution to this problem. It's an in-depth problem and I've talked to the state patrol and to other law enforcement people many times about it. In northeast Nebraska we have a problem so it just isn't an Omaha problem or a big city problem. It's in our rural areas too and so we need to address it and I think Senator Abboud and some of the other co-sponsors of this bill are trying to do that. In visiting with some of the other states, we find that they are trying to address the problem by passing bills that would levy tougher penalties on them and that is what this bill is doing. This would allow tougher minimum penalties for dealers selling these drugs and we need to attack it from all ways. Another thing that we need to do, we need to see that our law enforcement people enforce these laws when we put them on the book and, Senator Chambers, if you have any ideas on that, I would certainly like to hear that from you. We also need to educate our younger people and maybe some of our older people too, as far as that goes, tell them how these drugs