

April 3, 1989

LB 592

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR ABOUD: Let's go after the people that are making the money. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, discussion on the motion to bracket.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Abboud a few very gentle questions, just to get some things in the record.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Abboud, how many...how many big pushers would you say this bill will cause to be sought out by the Omaha police?

SENATOR ABOUD: I believe, Senator Chambers, that the figures that I used at the last round of debate that it would impact, at that time the amount of arrests would have been between January 1, '89 through March 19 of '89 was approximately six.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, now, in your opinion, are there more than six big pushers in Omaha?

SENATOR ABOUD: I would say that this problem is exploding, Senator Chambers, and the way it has worked in other parts of the nation is that maybe you will only have a couple, two, three, four large drug dealers which will control the market and that's...that's why you see the violence, the fighting among the different gangs to try to reduce the amount of large drug dealers in a particular city.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, why do you think the Omaha police have not really gone after the big ones? Or do you say that they have gone after them but they can't catch them or don't know who they are?

SENATOR ABOUD: I haven't said anything, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I'm asking, because the way I phrased the question might have caused you to answer it in a way that you wouldn't choose to answer it the way I phrased it. What I had