

Senator Chizek's part. I believe he would work very hard to try to reach some accommodation here, but I suspect this is one of those issues that isn't going to be very easy to reach an accommodation on. And so I'm going to support the committee amendments. And, frankly, it seems obvious to me we don't need the bill right now, given the intent that the committee stated when they put it out. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator McFarland, please, followed by Senator Chizek and Senator Landis.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. President. On the Judiciary Committee, I was involved in the discussions when this bill was advanced out of the committee. We proposed the amendment because of the urgency to the problem that had been created by the court decisions out in North Platte and also I think there was one in Omaha, which generally declared that the constitutional provision on the right to have ownership of a gun was so broadly written that it would not prevent the state from regulating the possession of firearms by felons. Nevertheless, had this bill been voted on in its original form, I would have still voted to get it out of committee and I suspect there would have been a general support on the committee as well, from the conversation that went on. We did have a hearing in Judiciary on this particular thing and I think it's appropriate that we defeat the committee amendments and vote on the bill whether you are in favor of it or not. I think it's kind of a pie-in-the-sky hope that somehow you can send this bill back to the Judiciary Committee and there will be some kind of accommodation on this issue. This is a very modest proposal and to say that you're going to...as you can tell from the letters and the phone calls and angry phone calls and irate letters and things you have already been receiving, as I have, there is going to be no accommodation on this issue. This issue seems to me to be a bill that's a good one, that is supported by a majority of the voters in our state. A waiting period is supported by the majority of people, according to the polls. It is also supported by...strongly by our law enforcement officers and people who have talked to us. I would urge you defeat the committee amendments and I will plan to vote in favor of the bill. I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Ashford if he has a few things to say.

PRESIDENT: Senator Ashford, you have two and a half minutes.