

to close on the committee amendments?

SENATOR CHIZEK: Well, once again to reiterate so that everyone is aware, we are asking that the committee amendments be voted down, specifically because of the Supreme Court decision that was the opposite of the two Lincoln County decisions. You have heard some debate asking for you to support the committee amendments. I, obviously, elected, senators, you can support and vote for anything you want, but I think it's a mistake to do that. We conducted a hearing in Omaha that was a lengthy hearing. Both sides of the issue had ample time to debate and bring their points forward. I think that it was a good hearing. Our decision was, why go through the introduction of another bill? There was a bill here. I think we heard enough good things that we can address this bill as we go on. I have told you again that the introducer and the...Senator Ashford and the NRA, I have had meetings again with them as late as this morning and they're willing to sit down and work. If we can work out something that both sides can agree, why not? Why not? If we can't, then I guess there will be a battle on Select File. But why have a battle before it's necessary? At least, give us a chance. I urge your rejection of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 2 ayes, 30 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are rejected. Senator Ashford, would you like to open on the bill itself?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President, and members, this bill is, as you know by now, a bill which calls for...LB 642 which calls for a seven-day waiting period for the purchase of handguns in the State of Nebraska. The bill applies only to handguns which are defined as firearms that have a barrel length of less than 12 inches and can be...are designed to be fired with one hand. I indicated, briefly, that...on the debate, on the amend...or on the constitutional amendment that Nebraska has several laws on the books dealing with handgun...responsible gun ownership and handguns. It has bills...or laws on the books which prohibit the possession of short shotguns, possession of machine guns, possession of firearms by felons, the defacement