

good public policy to have felons with handguns because that is basically what you would be voting for if you vote against LB 642. You would be saying that because somehow, somehow this bill affects the rights of legitimate gun owners, that we will...we will sacrifice and allow felons to go into a store and to lie on the federal form and say they are not felons and purchase handguns without any check whatsoever even though...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...this body has already said that it is illegal for a felon to possess a firearm. Finally, the bill calls for a seven-day waiting period as a cooling off period. And I would suggest to you that you talk to your law enforcement agencies and ask them about crimes of passion. And you have handed out to you the statistics in Nebraska where last year 35 percent of homicides were crimes called spontaneous act felonies which are, in essence, crimes of passion. I leave it up to you, who is going to make the decision for you, the NRA or the people of the State of Nebraska and those individuals, those individuals who deal on a day-to-day basis in the trenches with these homicides, these drug dealers and these violent acts?

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR ASHFORD: This doesn't solve every problem but it gives to law enforcement a necessary tool to help in this very important war that we're fighting on our streets. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Landis, please, followed by Senator Hefner and Senator Crosby. But, Senator Landis, I understand the Clerk has something here.

CLERK: Mr. President, I do have amendments. The first is offered by Senator Haberman. Senator, this is your amendment...would you like me to read it? It's the one that's the new Section 2.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Which one of the 13 is this, Mr. Clerk? Would you please read it.

CLERK: It's the one that says, "Section 2. This act shall not apply to any person residing in any county having a population of fewer than 60,000 inhabitants." (See page 891 of the Legislative Journal.)