

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the body, this amendment merely says that the seven-day waiting period will not apply to any county that has a population of 60,000 people or less. So this, in essence, says to Omaha, Senator Ashford, to the people in Lincoln and the people in Sarpy County, if you would like to have a seven-day waiting period for firearms, that's fine, that is fine. However, to those of us who live in the smaller counties, if we have the problem that I understand they have in Omaha where people go around shooting at people on street corners and sitting on porches and shooting at vacant buildings, if that were to happen out where I come from, the "shootors" would have "shootees" back. We wouldn't have that because they know if they started to shoot somebody, that somebody they're shooting at is sure as hell going to shoot back. So we don't have that problem. We don't have that problem. So, therefore, I'm perfectly willing to support the issue, support the bill and if you adopt this amendment that says, basically, where you folks have the problem, where you want the seven-day waiting period, be my guest, have at it. I will help you pass your legislation, just take care of Senator Ashford's problem, take care of Lincoln's problem, take care of Sarpy's problem, and in basic it just says leave the rest of us alone. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Landis, please, followed by Senator Hefner.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to oppose the Haberman amendment. I don't know if you have the same experiences I do, you get a lot of small postcards that have one-sentence declarations from your constituents, vote against this bill or vote for that bill and they don't go very deep into why they think it's a good idea. But it's like a tally, it's like part of a petition, I guess you would say. On the other hand, how rare we have those times when a constituent comes to see you and he is really ready for you. He is really prepared. Sits down, talks to you. Happened to me this morning. I had a constituent who owns a lot of guns, sells a lot of guns. Came in and had read the bill word for word and was really ready for bear. And, frankly, it was a very fascinating discussion and you know how rare those are when, in fact, they have read the bills, they're up on the issues and it's not just a matter of what you have read in the paper recently or, you know, two or three inches in a column inches in a newspaper and they dash off