

after they have performed the violent act. That doesn't make any sense. Why do we have felon in possession laws if we are not going to check to make sure that felons do not have easy access. Easy access is not...much easier than buying a car or registering a car or getting a driver's license. The felon has easy available access to the purchase of a firearm, in this case a handgun. Secondly, what else are we trying to accomplish? We are trying to accomplish the process whereby someone in the heat of passion, who is intent upon buying a gun to purchase a gun and commit a crime that day, that minute, that hour, is given some opportunity to think about it. I think that it should be...in my original bill, I suggested seven days. Senator Chizek has come up with another alternative which I think is equally as good, and we will talk about that in a moment, but there has got to be some procedure whereby individuals who are in the heat of passion, who are intent upon committing a crime, and that crime is the natural result of that emotional state are at least...there is time available in the system to stop that person and to have that person think about what he or she is doing. Thirdly, and this is a very important point I think that we have got to look at, and the third guideline that we looked at in coming up with these amendments was law-abiding citizens who own guns in this state need to be listened to. Their concerns need to be taken care of and to be listened to when we craft a bill that affects how they buy guns, in this case, handguns. Senator Chizek has done an excellent job in my opinion of reaching out to that community of people in this state and saying to them, tell me what you need to make this a fair bill for you so that we can accomplish the original purposes of the bill but still take into consideration your rights...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...and what you think would be a good bill, and we have gotten input from those people, and that input is in LB 642. If you listen to the handgun control people, they will tell you, you have got to have seven-day waiting period, fifteen-day waiting period in order for this law to work. If you listen to the NRA, at best they will say we want an instantaneous check but we really don't want any check at all. We don't particularly care if felons buy guns because it will infringe to some degree on the rights of law-abiding citizens to own guns. Those are the two polar positions, and what I suggest to you is that LB 642 is a Nebraska bill. It is a Nebraska