

SENATOR HALL: Question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do, and the question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased. Senator Ashford, would you like to close, please, on your motion.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Mr. President, members, I would like to thank especially Senator Chizek for all of the work that...really yeoman's job that he has done, not only in the last week or two weeks to try to work this bill out, but in the year prior to that time working with my office to try to work out the constitutional problems with LB 642, to have two hearings on the bill so that we could discuss how the mechanisms of some kind of a reasonable check would work, and without his participation in this process, we wouldn't have a bill on the floor, let alone up for a vote at this point. And I would just like to say a couple of points, I respect Senator Elmer very much for his views, Senator Hefner. They have a very strong belief that gun restrictions of any kind are not necessary. I am not going to be able to change Senator Hefner's mind no matter how hard I try. And there are others on this floor who I...would probably be in the same camp as Senator Hefner who simply do not believe that restricting in any way the sale of hand, in this case, handguns in anyway promotes public safety. And I respect that view because I know it is a view that he holds dear and it is a view probably that many of his constituents hold dear in his part of the state. And so I am not going to try to do that, but what I would just ask the members of this body to do, going back to my opening, is to try and forget for a moment, if possible, what has been said by the NRA to you, or by handgun control to you, and center on the bill, itself. I am sure handgun control would not agree to a waiting period for the purchase of stinger missiles. I mean, you know, they are not interested in any restrictions at all, even though as I said in the first day of debate, the NRA did support a 15-day waiting period in Oregon, and I said then and I say, again, why can't...if the citizens of Oregon deserve the protection of a 15-day waiting period, why do not the citizens of Nebraska deserve a two-day waiting period for the purchase of handguns? Many states have dealt with this