

on emotions rather than over a tragedy or common sense and the wishes of our people in Nebraska. Many constituents of mine have said time and time again, we don't want any gun control bill passed in the Legislature. My letters and telephone calls are running, I would vouch to say, 20 to 1, 20 to 1 against any gun control bill. This proposed amendment would place, I feel, a tremendous burden on the cost and the inconvenience of all our honest citizens in Nebraska and do virtually nothing to solve the problems that we were told that it would solve. I don't know what it's going to cost local government but it could cost the local police force and the county sheriff's office many dollars. And how do we raise that money? It's property taxes. And this is something that we're trying to relieve. I feel that it's a first step down the road to general controls on the private ownerships of all types of firearms and I don't want to see that in Nebraska. If we adopt this amendment and this bill, it will let them get their foot in the door. We have heard quite a little about Sarah Brady from Washington, D.C. and she was in Lincoln a while back. And I sympathize with her. I sympathize with her on what happened to her husband, Mr. Brady. This happened, this tragedy happened in Washington, D.C., where we have all kinds of gun control laws, one right after another. These laws in Washington, D.C. control every firearm imaginable but still this happened. So if we pass a bill such as this, it isn't going to help us in Nebraska. Washington, D.C. has the highest firearm death risk in the United States. So how can this bill help us in Nebraska? These two senators are from Omaha and Omaha has some strict gun controls. And how much has it reduced crime in Omaha? You can just about pick up a paper every day and see that a crime has been committed. So it hasn't helped. This will...this bill will not stop the useless killings, the maimings and the crippling that its sponsors said will stop. This bill will not guarantee the citizens of Nebraska that no criminal will have a way of purchasing a handgun again in our state. And you want to know why? Because criminals will find a way to purchase a gun. All this bill does is penalize the innocent. This bill will add to the paper work and to the burden...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: ...of an already overworked police department and it will further tie their hands in their office instead of letting them get out on the streets preventing crime like we want them to do and what we pay them to do. This bill will