

this could be a tiny step toward solving that particular problem. I'm not saying a tiny step toward more gun control because that will have to come in itself, but I'm saying we do have a problem of too many murders in this country, and if we can do something about it, we ought to be doing it. Once again, I know that probably we're falling on deaf ears as we proceed through the noon hour but I think we need to consider that this issue is not going to go away, and we ought to at least try to do something that will let Nebraska stand alone as at least be...have a law that we want ourselves compared to what will be thrust upon us from the national level in due time.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Question.

SPEAKER BAACK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. We will now proceed to vote on ceasing debate. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BAACK: Debate has ceased. We will now go to Senator Hefner to close.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, the way it sounds in here like I'm against reducing crime and I'm not. We certainly need to do something but this is not the answer. LB 355, as amended, will not do it. If this bill passes, I bet if we come back five years from now, I bet our crime rate is higher than it is now. Let's talk about Omaha a little bit. Omaha has a gun control bill...or gun control law and still it doesn't help. Well, it was mentioned that, well, they can go right outside of Omaha and buy a gun. These criminals don't go outside the city limits of Omaha and buy guns, they can buy them right in Omaha. They can buy all the handguns they want to. So it hasn't helped there. Criminals will find a way to get a gun. What we're doing here is punishing the honest guy and I think that's wrong. We can talk about Washington, D.C., it has...it hasn't helped the crime rate in Washington, D.C. The crime rate keeps going up, and up, and up. In fact, in Washington, D.C., crime rate has just in...has increased tremendously. So I think we need to say here, who is kidding who with this? The honest