

thank my office staff, Margaret Maloney, and before her, Doug Clark, who worked so hard on this legislation and long hours and long nights trying to work out something that would be satisfactory. Especially, I guess, at this point I'd like to thank Senator Schellpeper, who at least this year brought a counter proposal on gun control, the NRA version, or the NRA's instant check legislation to this body as an alternative. Throughout this year and the three or four days that we have debated this issue, and certainly in committee there has been a good solid debate on what is the preferable system, whether it be a certificate of purchase system, whether it be a waiting period system like the Brady bill, or an instant check system. I think Nebraska is probably somewhat unique, amongst all of the states, in as much as we have debated, over the last three years, all of those issues. The bill, as was originally introduced in the Legislature, was introduced as a seven day waiting period. It has been amended into a permit system. We debated that kind of system, similar to the Iowa certificate to purchase system. We debated that for a couple of years and now...throughout that period of time we also debated, especially this year, the concept that Senator Schellpeper has brought to us, and several other senators who have signed on to LB 801, the concept of the instant check. Also, I'd like to...Could I get a gavel, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: (Gavel.)

SENATOR ASHFORD: In the last couple of months I've had the opportunity to...Senator, Mr. President, I really can't hear myself. Could I...

SENATOR CONWAY PRESIDING

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Will the house please be in order so Senator Ashford can hear himself.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you. It's probably not that stimulating, but it's the best I've got, Senator Conway. Over the past several months I've had the opportunity to travel, literally across the State of Nebraska, been to Scottsbluff, and Kearney, and Grand Island, and Wayne, Grand Island, and Hastings, and have listened to a lot of people on the issue of gun control. And there are many people out there in North Platte. Senator Bernard-Stevens, excuse me. There are a lot of people outside of the urban areas, certainly, who would not like