

Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President and members of the body, this will be one of my very unemotional pleas as far as questions. Senator Ashford, I would like to have you answer a couple of questions, please.

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Okay.

SENATOR ROBINSON: What will be the cost to the counties and the cities?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Senator Robinson, I don't believe there will be any cost.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay. Okay, I want to buy a gun and I talked to you earlier about this, I will go through it again, but I go...I go down to the Chief of Police in Blair and I want to buy a...I want to buy a handgun. And say he doesn't know me, I fill out the certificate, then what happens.

SENATOR ASHFORD: You would fill out the application form which is similar to the federal form. It's stated in the act what...what it is that's on the form. He would take the form and he would do...he or she would do a background check and that's essentially what all they're supposed to do is they would do a background check to check to determine whether or not the purchaser, whether you comply with federal law, are able to legally own a handgun and then they would issue the certificate to you. You would then take the certificate back to the gun owner, gun store, and buy the...buy the gun.

SENATOR ROBINSON: On the...wouldn't they have to make some telephone calls?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Well, they aren't required to do that because in some cases, Senator Robinson, there may...there would...I believe that there are computers in about 80 law enforcement offices across the state. Otherwise, if they don't have the computers right there in the office, they would have to make a call to one of those 80, or directly to the state, but normally the record check in most of the larger communities can be done there on...with the computer system that they already have in