

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 24, 1999 LB 476

Schellpeper, on the Chambers amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members. I rise to oppose the Chambers amendment. The \$500 figure is not needed. The bill has always been designed to be revenue neutral and that's what it will be. The State Patrol will get everything back whatever it costs them. There would be additional employees hired to take care of that, so it wouldn't take care of what Senator Schimek was worried about. South Dakota charges \$10 for their permit. You know, why would this state want to charge \$500 when South Dakota charges \$10 and it will do the same thing as...? Are our citizens in this state more criminal people than what they are up in South Dakota or the other states? I don't think so. One of the...I think the main concern with the bill or the amendments, whatever you want to talk about, is a misunderstanding of what the bill really does. I think, whether you're law enforcement that are opposed to it or whether you're individuals opposed to it, if you really look at the bill and know what's in the bill you're concerns are really taken care of. Senator Schimek, you mentioned about your neighbor had a concern with the bill because on this one trail, and she's scared to go on that trail if this bill passes. How does she know now that those individuals out there that are jogging or bicycling don't have a handgun on them? And she doesn't know and she won't know with this bill. Nothing will change. This bill won't change a thing with what happens in this state. It won't change a thing. It won't put more guns out there. It's going to...the people that currently have handguns, some of them will go get a permit to carry concealed, but it won't put one more gun on the streets of this state. It's not designed...it hasn't done it in the other states so why would it do in this state? Everybody thinks that we're going to be so much different than any other state. We're not going to be. We haven't been different and we're not going to be. So I think if the people that are concerned will just take a look at the bill and what it does, your concerns would all go away, 'cause it's not that bad of a bill. It hasn't done all of these scare tactics that in all of the other states. The opposition always uses all these here scare tactics--it's going to do this and it's going to do that. It hasn't in the other states, so why are the people of this state, which I've always thought is a