

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

March 25, 1999 LB 476

scrutiny of the law...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...because they did not know the law. The intruder was fleeing, deadly force wasn't necessary. There are a whole number of situations where a shot shouldn't have been fired. But the sense of wrong experienced by the clerk leads to an emotional state that doesn't make for good judgment in many of those situations. So I don't understand why we would want to pass a law that would encourage citizens to put themselves in a situation that they may not, in the end, be able to handle. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Lot of...you know I've heard quite a few quotes here this morning from people who have written to their senators or their representatives. I have one that I received on the 19th of February. Dear Senator Janssen, I've watched with interest yours and Senator Schellpeper's efforts to adopt a reasonable concealed weapons law. I want you to know that I fully support your efforts. The opponents of a concealed weapons law apparently feel that LB 476 became law, if it did, Nebraska would see an epidemic of shootouts at street corners. One only need to look at Iowa to see that this is not the case. I work in Iowa. A couple years ago I felt the need to occasionally have access to a handgun when I worked nights and weekends in what I considered a rough part of town. I applied to the Pottawattamie County Sheriff for permission. I went through a required classroom training and shooting session. I stopped short of actually getting the permit, but the point is that I could have received one. I was not treated as some sort of nut, and they issued...ensured me that I knew what I was doing. My classmates were from all walks of life, and none that I know of was refused a permit. Do we hear all sorts of random shootings by Iowans with permits to carry concealed weapons? I've heard of none. I'm not a gun nut. I own two handguns that I keep locked up when I don't feel a need to have access. I am the busiest professional with a...or he said, I am a business professional with a graduate degree in business. I don't even