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PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...but from the hospital room to the execution chamber, where the killing is to take place. This state creates more than a half dozen killers in order to dispatch one killer. And I'm going to tell you about some of the things that I saw and why I think it is such a grotesque, obscene thing to kill people in the way that the state does, and I did not even witness the actual cooking of the man in the electric chair.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. For discussion on the Chambers amendment to the committee amendments to LB 76, Senator Matzke.

SENATOR MATZKE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I was a little bit tardy in reaching the floor and didn't hear all of Senator Brashear's opening speech. And I'll tell you why I was late. CNN, right now, is carrying live broadcasts from Denver, where gunmen have, in a school, Columbine High School, have shot 14 children. They are cornered, apparently, in the building, and the police have not yet apprehended them. One girl was shot nine times in the chest. I think it's ironic that today we are discussing the death penalty when this event is occurring. And you can walk across the hall, there are senators over there watching CNN right now. I was over there just about two minutes ago. I think it is quite ironic that we're trying to discuss a penalty for taking the life of a human being while that may in fact be occurring at this very moment in Denver. My personal concern is that this is happening in Littleton, Colorado, a suburb of Denver, I have two grandchildren that go to school in Littleton. Fortunately, they're in a grade school, and this is occurring in a high school. But I grieve, nevertheless, for the parents of those 14 children. There may be more of them. So far the report is that none of them have died. Hopefully, that will be the result, and that whoever is firing the shots will be apprehended, but they have not been yet. I really did not intend to address this issue. I think what Senator Brashear wants us to do is admirable. I think we need to examine continually our method of penalty and execution for murder and