

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

February 26, 2003 LB 111

is prosecuted at the federal level, which is a felony, which in the recent case involving in Syracuse where the person was manufacturing, distribution and possessing it, under federal law they're able to charge that person with all felony counts. Under Nebraska, possessions are traditionally handled at the local level, and the manufacturing, distribution on the large scales are generally handled at the federal level. For example, we've had recent cases where people have been caught 16 counts of possession of child pornography, 56 counts. I know of instances where actual wives have called on their husbands and said, my husband is possessing child pornography, and that would then launch an investigation into the possessing of it. There are actually people that actually go, I mean not all the crooks are the sharpest tool in the shed, they'll actually go to Kinko's and have copies made and...or go to photography developing places and have photography develop, and that's how a lot of this possession comes about, is through examples like that--anonymous calls, people developing film, things like that.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Um-hum. So this brings the penalty up, what's at the federal level. Is that what you're saying? This penalty brings, with this bill, brings it up to where the...if it's not...if it's tried at the federal level, it's at what penalty?

SENATOR MOSSEY: On the possession?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Without referencing the actual law, I do know in today's World-Herald where the person in Syracuse, Nebraska, was charged with operating a child pornography ring He was charged with all felony counts.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Felony. Okay.

SENATOR MOSSEY: And part of that included possession, so...and, like I said, 30 other states have possession of child pornography as a felony, so we're not setting a precedence here, and other states are considering this right now too.