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FLOOR DEBATE

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described, this amendment goes to LB 208, and adds to it. LB 208 stands complete. And we add to it these amendments. By now you may have that copy there. While that's happening, while those are being distributed, some of the philosophy behind it. This was a product of an interim study. There was much input. There was general feeling in the public and on the floor that we need to target repeat offenders. We do not try to greatly increase penalties. I have a philosophy against heavier penalties. I don't think that's the way to change behavior. But rather, the way way we change behavior is to be clear, concise, and sure. Now, in the press, there has been a poster boy in terms of repeat offenders. And I'm going to speak to that with my own poster boy. First...on the first handout, I point out that the first offense is working. We despair about some of these concerns, but look at the chart of the offenses that you had before you, and you'll see that the big number is first offense. Clearly, drivers change their behavior after first offense. They wake up on Monday morning and say, this is not the way I want to live or be; I'm going to do differently. But 64,000 repeat offenders...and these are only Nebraska statistics, by the way; nothing from another state or jurisdiction...64,000 repeat offenders create a lot of havoc and expense for us. I'm especially concerned about the 873 who have seven and over. Clearly, they have missed the learning curve on that. Now for my poster boy. Here's the rap sheet. And I...it's not the complete rap sheet, because I'm not tall enough. Here's the rap sheet on one of those drivers with ten or more. And this is single-entry, no more than one line on any thing. It would be kind of fun to stop and make you guess how many arrests this man has had. It's 97. And that's only in Nebraska. Ninety-seven arrests. Eighteen of those were dismissed, which is something that our bill is trying to get at. Because how do you dismiss that many arrests on somebody with this kind of a record? Seventy-five convictions. And these are for all kinds of things: lewd behavior, stabbing, assault, many...robbery. Forty of those 97 arrests are for driving convictions. Twenty of them are DUI. I will be referring to this type of a person several times, and I ask that you kind of keep in mind that kind of a person as we try to decide what can be done. For we have an attitude problem here. And in this particular man, who was asked about a nurse which he put