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FLOOR DEBATE

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concealed weapons, 79 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed, 22 percent agreed or strongly agreed. When people were given this statement, society in general will be safer if people were allowed to carry concealed weapons, 16 percent agreed or strongly agreed, 84 percent disagreed or strongly disagreed. And when the statement was given, concealed weapons will cause more gun violence, Nebraskans who answered the survey, which was 1,053 adults, again by the University of Nebraska, 79 percent agreed or strongly agreed that concealed weapons will cause more gun violence, and 20 percent disagreed or disagreed strongly. And I think Senator Schimek has said, we all have some constituents who feel pretty strongly about this issue. In my case, it's mostly my male constituents who contacted me on this issue. And they come from a variety of walks of life, and of interest, and the dozen or fifteen or so that I've heard from over the years consistently want this. So I asked my constituents in a survey, and I urge those of you to do these kinds of things too. This is not scientific. This is government by who shows up. But of my constituents when I asked, do you believe that...it said...the statement was, the proposal before the Legislature would change Nebraska's current firearms legislation to permit people with gun permits to carry concealed weapons; 75 percent said, no, do not change current law to permit carrying concealed weapons. There are a lot of reasons not to add more guns into our society. We've already heard it's going to create issues for law enforcement, but I'm concerned about what that does to the availability of the guns to children. Forty-three percent of parents who own guns do not lock them up in a place where children cannot get to them. And this is from a book by University of Southern California Professor Dr. Ronald Gottesman, gun...called "Violence in America." Fifty-two percent of all gun owners do not properly store their firearms. Guns kept at home...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...are four times more likely to be involved in accidental shootings. Guns kept at home are seven times more likely to be used for criminal assault or homicide, and guns kept at home are eleven times more likely to be used for attempting to commit suicide or committing suicide. We don't