

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

March 31, 2003      LB 265

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator Chambers, would it be your desire that everybody was barred from having a gun except police officers, and maybe not some police officers?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, the second part, maybe not some police officers, definitely. But the first part of the question, I've never undertaken to take guns away from people who have them now. And that is not my ultimate goal.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I understand that. And I understand what you're saying, and I have no argument with that. But the way the debate is going on on this bill, it appears that that could perhaps be a motive of some people. Or would you not think so?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No. Because, Senator, we have not...those people...let me speak for myself and people who are of a like mind...have never presented a bill to take guns from anybody. The bills that come before us are to allow a greater proliferation. So people such as myself will say, this far and no further. You can own guns. You can even conceal them now if you have a reason that the law accepts.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, thank you. Thank you very much, Senator. One of the things that I think that is more intriguing about this bill than anything we've had in the past, and that is the fact that the amendment that's being put on this bill is going to cause the kind of training that I think people really, really need to have when they're allowed to have a concealed weapon. And actually, it should be whether they're concealing a weapon or not. There are some agencies in this country who have undertaken programs to, in fact, train young people...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...how to handle guns. And I think that's a wonderful thing that needs to be done for the young people of this country. If, in fact, they're going to be allowed to carry a gun, no matter how young or how old they are, I think they should have some instructions on how to handle those guns. And I think if that were to be the point that we tried to strive here, that we could cut down the number of fatalities or