

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

April 1, 2003

LB 265

fallacy to believe that people are walking around without concealed weapons because this law is not on the books yet. That's wrong. I want to be able to carry one too, be it a pencil, ...you know, the pencil is not what would kill somebody. It's the intent of the person wielding the weapon. We were talking the other day, we could take a chair and kill somebody with it if we really wanted to. Do we want to make chairs illegal? It's the intent of the heart that causes people to commit crimes with weapons. Again, I was a victim of crime twice when I lived in California for nine years. I was robbed twice. Peaceful Barrio Norwalk and West Side Riva were fighting over the place where I lived. I went around on graffiti patrol, got rid of graffiti, and I became a target. Another time I was parked at a four-way stop after dark. I had a little four-door orange Corolla. Fortunately, I kept all the doors on that car locked because you know why? I pulled up at a four-way stop and I heard someone open the passenger side back car door, or try to, and when I looked in my rearview mirror that guy was booking it down the street. Had I not had my door locked, I'd have had a guy in the back seat. Now, maybe, if that guy was worrying about whether or not I might have a weapon stronger than a number two pencil in my possession, perhaps he would think twice before he yanked on my car door. So that's my point. Crime is in the heart of the perpetrator. It is not in the nature of what he is allowed to carry because he's got it anyway, and they are all around us with it. The people who have a bad intention in their heart and want to commit crimes will do that regardless of what we have on the books as far as the law goes. I encourage the rest of the body to please support this bill. I think many people probably already have their minds made up on it. I want to be sure that we do have carefully crafted legislation but I also want to make sure that we don't miss a chance to help our people have freedom to protect themselves, and that the law-abiding citizens are enabled to also carry weapons concealed just like the nonlaw-abiding people do. I give the rest of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Senator...thank you, Senator Combs. Senator Chambers, there is no more lights on. You can close on this.. on your amendment.