

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

April 17, 2003

LB 265

fingerprints have been forwarded to the Nebraska State Patrol, the money is paid, the Nebraska State Patrol having completed all of their checks and returned them to the sheriff, and every other requirement of the act has been fulfilled, the sheriff has five days. And, as a practical matter, he's probably got longer than that. I don't know about any of the other counties, because I don't have any contact with them, but I know that in my county, if it came back to the sheriff and he didn't have the time to do it because he's got something else, like multiple murders, to worry about, and you went in there and said, where's my license--we're kind of busy right now, Gene; could you come back in a week? I think so. Why do I think so? Because one of the statistics that has been shown in all the states that have a shall-issue permit system is that the permit holders are substantially more law-abiding than the general population. And this is proven by their arrest records, incident reports, one thing and the other. Now, who are going to be applying for these licenses after they get one under this bill? In the first place, you have to sign your willingness to have your past investigated. A lot of people, knowing that at least records are in some better condition now than they have been previously, they may not be perfect, as I mentioned, but we don't have any set of perfect records in this state or, to the best of my knowledge, in any other state. We don't have perfect hospital records under which people go in and get healed. There's all sorts of things we have but perfection is not one of them. It is denied to us. But the knowledge that the information could come back is going to take a person who can't do well under this microscope, under this examination, under this spotlight, he's probably going to say, well, I've always got 28-1202, the Chambers guilty until proven innocent law. I think that's going to be something that retards people, that keeps people, from having these licenses even thought of. It won't even be in their thought process. There are a lot of people out there now who are carrying weapons. The law-abiding ones fall into two classes. I have a number of people who have come to me and said, just leave everything well enough alone,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR TYSON: ...we've been carrying guns for years. Others