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FLOOR DEBATE

April 25, 2003 LB 265

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The motion that we are arguing is to recommit to committee. This bill came out of committee 6 to 2, and Senator Chambers was one of those and I believe Senator Mines the other. We have gone over this bill in some detail. There is an additional amendment down the line, LB 1362 or, pardon me, AM1362. But this bill has been looked at by everybody that we could think of that has a level of expertise. But I have to remind you of what the purpose of this bill is. It is to lawfully permit law-abiding citizens, and not just law-abiding citizens, citizens who have been scrutinized very carefully by law enforcement, who have been qualified via training that the State Patrol, and I just read you that portion, authorizes. And I would submit to you that with the knowledge that the permit is noted on Motor Vehicle Department records, when a stop is made and contact is about to be initiated by a police officer and he has stopped 7-B8080, what he gets back before he approaches the car is what kind of a car it is and who the driver...who it's registered to. In that case, it would be Gene Tyson, and Gene Tyson has a concealed carry permit. Now if Gene Tyson is the one that's driving that car, that officer knows that he is not talking to a criminal or a man with a criminal past. That man has never run over the foot of a highway patrolman who was giving him a ticket, as happened to one individual I know. And there's a certain amount of confidence building in that if he can ascertain that the man he's talking to is the man who the car is registered to. This does not imperil police officers. It may, under certain circumstances, imperil those who want to use force and violence to take what isn't theirs. In the previous discussion a week ago Thursday, I asked Senator Chambers if he was familiar with a word called "criminal." These are people who violate laws, who commit crimes. This bill doesn't reach them. They can't qualify for that bill, for that permit. The whole thing behind this is, and again I'm repeating myself for the forty or fiftieth time, this has to do with your right to defend yourself if you choose to do so, and that's all. It gives you the means to actually do it, and that's all. If you use that, you are responsible for what you do. You will be held to examination if you do wrong, and this has happened in a few instances in other states. You are convicted of a crime and you'll never carry a