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FLOOR DEBATE

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comes through the criminal history checks; their...the inability of police...of the sheriff's office to, other than if the person reveals it, know about a commitment, a mental health commitment; that what we know and what's presented on this floor is that, generally speaking, people with mental illness, when they get picked up, they start in the criminal justice system but then they voluntarily commit themselves. There's no information unless that person chooses to reveal it. This is what's happened in Texas. There have been arrests for two serious violent crimes per month, including murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, negligent homicide, kidnap, rape, and assault by concealed permit holders, and at least two crimes against children per month since the laws went into effect, including sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault on a child, injury to a child, indecency with a child, abandoned endangerment of a child, solicitation of a minor in possession, or promotion of child pornography. They arrest four drunk drivers per week that are carrying concealed. Family violence is identified in one of twenty-three incidents with a person carrying concealed weapon, and that their license holders have been arrested for more than one weapon-related offense every other day since the law has gone into effect. I think if people feel the need to defend themselves, they should take the advice of the Police Chiefs' Association...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...and carry pepper spray. They shouldn't...and I'm going to put my light on for a third time to talk about the incidents and the dangers to police officers and the problems to those people. People will be given concealed carry permits in Nebraska because of the fact that the way the law is written it's a shall issue and it's putting the sheriff in a very precarious position to deny a permit to a person who has mental illness, for them relying on data that may not be correct. We will not...these will not be all what you want to call law-abiding citizens. We will have people issued permits that will have a gun available in a situation that they may not have even had that as an alternative and will be committing crimes with those weapons because they are more available. I don't believe we need more weapons in our society, more dangers