

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

April 28, 2003      LB 265

permit...issue the permit, time will be spent in court defending his or her position. As you noted in your letter, the applicant may go to court as provided by the act. The matter is adjudicated by the court. The sheriff has done his best. NSA respectfully opposes LB 265. I don't know how many organizations, law enforcement organizations and those that are charged with protecting the safety of Nebraskans, how many times must they say this is not good legislation. They are concerned about the effects on the citizens of Nebraska and I simply, again, call for closure to this. Let's get on with it. If we have the votes, fine. If we don't, let's move on. And with that, I return the rest of my time to you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Want to again address the issues of whether or not and why we would want to become a shall issue state when we do have a law that allows a gun to be carried for...an affirmative defense for a gun to be carried. This is information from John Hopkins University Center for Gun Policy and Research. Of all firearm homicides in 2000 in which a type of gun was known, 88 percent were committed with handguns. Gun related deaths are the second leading cause of injury in the United States, and in 1998, firearm related deaths outnumbered motor vehicle related deaths in three states and the District of Columbia. Of the 36 high-income and upper middle-income countries, the United States has the highest overall gun mortality rate. The rate of gun mortality in the United States is eight times higher than other high-income countries. I want to get back to the issues of having more guns in society, getting...creating even greater problems that we have with people making quick decisions, the availability of gun causing more harm than perhaps the situation that could have been worked out with some discussion or just the old-fashioned fistfight, I guess. Senator Schimek talked about the issues of domestic violence and the number of guns that we would have and the fright that you would have of knowing that someone could be coming toward you with a gun hidden that you don't...aren't even aware of. Family and intimate assaults involving firearms are 12 times more likely to result in death than intimate assaults that do not involve firearms. In homes