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the session, one way or the other, and it doesn't matter to me how. Senator Brashear has a bill that I told him I would not object to. Senator Foley correctly stated that I've changed my view relative to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...hate crimes legislation. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion, Senator Mossey.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in support of the bill and Senator Brashear's amendment. I've been asked numerous times, because of my background in law enforcement, about hate crimes. And having personally investigated hate crimes, I'd like to add in the fact the human element, and why having this statute in conformance to Supreme Court decisions is important. Several years ago, there was an African-American family that moved into a northwest neighborhood, and they had a cross burned in their front yard. Now, when you add the human element of 3:00 in the morning and having a cross burned in your front yard, and the look on that family's face and their children, you...I take into consideration, okay, would that crime have been committed had it not been for that family being African-American and moving to that neighborhood? No, that crime would not have been committed. Another example would be the anti-Semitism we went through several years ago. It was very, very prevalent, synagogues being broken into, Nazi stuff spray-painted, and people showing up to church that morning with their synagogue destroyed and anti-Semitism spray-painted everywhere. All those things provoke fear of the people that went through all those hardships. Currently, the way it's investigated right now, at least in the city of Omaha, is, on our crime reports, we have a section specifically designated for hate crimes. And you check whichever box if, after investigating it, if you determine that it's a hate crime and you can prove that it's a hate crime. Those are two classic examples where we can prove that crime would not have been committed had it been not for that person's belief. And then it