

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

March 22, 2004 LB 1093

initiated, continued, and if it resulted in injury or harm to innocent third party Nebraskans. I put with this article a copy of the important parts of that legislation. This article that I handed around for the sake of the record is dated March 22, 2004, page 1A of the morning edition of the World-Herald. What made this thing so unnecessary is the fact that the cops knew who the young man was, they knew where he lived, they had even been to the house before. So if he ran, let him run; he's going to come back home. It has been found that there are people who will run from the police for no reason, but those who feel they have a reason will not continue to run if the chase is broken off. These cops chased him at least four miles in and through Omaha. After running over the people on the motorcycle, he hit a sign. The thing he was driving, an SUV, flipped and became airborne, and he is in the hospital and does not know who he is or where he is. In other words, he has suffered a severe injury. His mother does not know the extent of his injuries because she was not allowed to visit him due to the fact that he has been placed under arrest, but he has a quantity of fluid on his brain that may make it necessary to drain it. From what has been stated publicly, his condition is not known. The severity of his injuries is not known. His mother felt the chase should not have occurred. Some of the witnesses who came to the scene later felt it should not have occurred. I think they should never occur. No action by the police should endanger the public. It would be like saying, in a hostage situation, the cops will kill all the hostages to get the hostage taker because the hostage taker...

SENATOR HARTNETT PRESIDING

SENATOR HARTNETT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...threatened the hostages. These are weighty matters. I think about them, maybe when nobody else does. And I don't just think about them. I don't just talk about them. I will do what I can as a legislator to address them. It's not going to be very comforting to those families who lost their loved ones, but it will be helpful to know that there is law on the books which will allow them to seek redress in a financial way against those who are responsible for the