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April 26, 2005 LB 117

and others. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, first of all, I do stand in support of LB 117. I think it's very important that we move and move this year on a bill to control methamphetamine. I do have, however, a little bit of concern, and this is what happens on an issue like this. So many states have come up with their own bills, and Oklahoma has a tough one, Iowa just passed one recently, and I am concerned as to what our surrounding states are doing. And certainly if Iowa is a tough legislation on methamphetamine and Nebraska is not, I certainly do feel that we're going to have a reverse effect to our casinos in that we're going to have people over in Iowa coming over to Nebraska and producing methamphetamines. And I wonder, Senator Bourne, if you would reply. Do you know the difference between Nebraska's proposed bill, here in LB 117, and what Iowa just passed?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, would you reply?

SENATOR BOURNE: Yes. Thank you, Senator Jensen. Iowa has passed the most restrictive bill in the entire country. It limits...it limits the pseudoephedrine base to, I believe, 300 milligrams. It also requires the logbook, so you have to present I.D. and sign in. There was an article in the paper recently that said that it is the most restrictive bill in the entire country. And I will also agree with you that if we don't respond to what the states around us are doing, you are exactly right, they're going to come here to cook the meth. I have a chart here that shows what all the states are doing and I'll read from that, but Iowa is pretty much at the top of the heap in terms of how they're addressing the problem.

SENATOR JENSEN: Well, I appreciate that and I do hope that whatever we do pass here this session is somewhat comparable, because I think they will go to the state that is the least restrictive where they can produce their methamphetamine and then get it back out on the market. So it would be great if there was a federal law on this that was uniform, but there isn't, so I think we need to be very cognizant of what surrounding states are doing to ensure that we don't become the