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FLOOR DEBATE

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write down your name and address, the number of the purchaser's motor vehicle operator's license, state identification card or military identification if it has a picture, together with the purchaser's signature. Did I mention the plate number on your vehicle? Oh yeah, we're going to take all that if you want a keg, but now we have a problem with the lobby because we can't buy cold medicine? If you have to sign a logbook, it's a great inconvenience? Put meth up to alcohol. I would challenge you to find a drug more dangerous than meth. You try it once and you're hooked. And I'm not one for more regulation and more rules to follow, but this drug, meth, presents a clear and present danger. This is the first step. And I want to thank Senator Bourne for looking all the legitimate business interests in the eye and saying, when he wrote the bill originally, let's look at everything. Let's put logbooks on the table. And he hammered out the compromise himself, together with the Governor, who stood up on his first day in office and said this is a problem. And Senator Aguilar has been a champion for drug courts. Senator Stuthman has been involved in fighting methamphetamines. Everybody understands what's going on. This is a supply and demand issue. This addresses one-half of the problem. The supply problem, yes, 20 percent of it can be reduced with less...with fewer meth labs; 80 percent of it we have to rely on meth...on law enforcement to curb the supply. The debate I hope we have at some point in my time in the Legislature is how we're going to affect the demand side and that, in my opinion, requires treatment, and it's just as important, if not more important, than the supply side.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FLOOD: Members of the Legislature, I want to do something bold. I want methamphetamine abuse and use in the state of Nebraska to significantly decrease. It's going to...it has a grip on rural Nebraska that some just can't imagine, but it does. I don't know what it's like in Omaha and Lincoln, but I know what it's like in small towns like Platte Center and Madison and Pierce and Wayne and Norfolk, and it's ugly and it's creating a generation of felons that we will not get back. Thank you, Mr. President.