

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

April 27, 2005      LB 117

the consumption of legislators. We make the laws. Doesn't that soak into anybody's brain? And the laws we make bind the conduct of people. And we ought to use some judgment, some intelligence, some wisdom. But it's not found on this floor, with certain notable exceptions. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Aguilar.

SENATOR AGUILAR: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I want to correct one of the things that has been said here a couple times this morning. Senator Chambers, for one, uses the figure of 95 percent, or something like that. And I have seen that article...that number in one article. But all the rest of the information I've ever had puts that figure around 80-20. So 80 percent of the meth coming into Nebraska comes in, actually, and 20 percent manufactured here. Now, what good are we going to do? I'll try to explain that briefly, what good we're going to do. We're going to prevent some labs in Nebraska. Can we prevent them all? No way. But we can prevent one. And I think the importance of that statement is how most...a lot of meth labs are discovered. A lot of meth labs are discovered after someone goes to the hospital with severe burns from an explosion in a meth lab. That's how most of them are discovered in Nebraska. So what that means is, people are getting hurt. And sometimes it's innocent children getting hurt. So this goes way beyond feel-good. This goes to stopping...preventing some labs. We have to do something. I'm not one to just throw my arms up in the air and say, well, we can't win every battle, so let's give up on it. I think we need to fight it--I think Senator Bourne said it best--incrementally, one step at a time. Whatever we can do to fight this scourge, we need to do it. That's our responsibility as legislators, to protect the people of Nebraska. This legislation does that. It will do that. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Aguilar. Senator Howard, followed by Senator Beutler.

SENATOR HOWARD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. As I'd mentioned earlier, when I talked to my pharmacist down at