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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 454

the individual resides or the county where the permit was applied for. The green copy of the bill stipulated you had to appeal the denial in the county in which you applied and resided in. The committee amendment allows an applicant who does not possess a driver's license to demonstrate that he or she meets the vision requirements by submitting a statement from an optometrist or an ophthalmologist, certifying the applicant's vision meets the requirements for a Class O operator's license. It strikes language prohibiting persons who have a history of violence or who are habitually in an intoxicated or drugged condition from obtaining a permit. It strikes a provision that states if a person is being investigated for an offense that would prohibit them from obtaining a permit, cannot apply. It amends the liability section to reflect the change in permit issuance from the county sheriff to the State Patrol. It adds language to provide for the electronic transmission of permit information to the DMV, corrects several internal references and other technical changes. That, Mr. President and members, is what the committee amendment did. With that, I'd yield the balance of my time to Senator Combs.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Combs, you have about 7, 41 left.

SENATOR COMBS: Okay, thank you. Thank you, Senator Bourne. The bill is basically the same as what it has been, advanced from the Judiciary Committee. Over the years it's been changed, amended, and improved with increased safety requirements. There are...topics include...definitions are the first part of the bill, and prohibited persons, as he mentioned, in the amendment, that will be prohibited from obtaining permits. Senator Beutler does have an amendment that I am in support of, which increases the length of time from five years to ten years, among some other language that does improve the bill, and I thank him for bringing that. We'll talk about that later. The training that's involved in the bill is crucial, and as most people already know, I did take the handgun training course, which is the 23-state concealed carry weapons course, and I was very impressed with everything that is included in that. Included in that is the proper storage of your weapon, how to keep the weapon separate from the ammunition, how to keep it away from children, people that should not have it, the proper way to fire