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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 454

to go through the windshield, but we do put it on because we would like to have some degree of protection. And I would propose that, you know, a vehicle, a person with a driver's license is more of a danger to killing people, if you talk about sheer numbers, than a trained permit holder would be. You know, I lock my doors at night, and I know...I think Senator Chambers, he keeps his door locked up there, and we do that as an initial deterrent, the same way that concealed weapons are a potential deterrent, because they don't know who's carrying and who's not. There was, and in answer to Senator Schimek, there was an Omaha World-Herald poll that I know is not scientific, but it was from a thousand people that replied--I think there were a little over a thousand--and 68 percent of those that responded to their on-line survey said they were in favor of it. So...and that was a couple of weeks ago. But again, that's not a scientific survey, and it's just people that replied to, you know, to the World-Herald on line. Passage of LB 454 will provide great comfort and protection for many women in Nebraska. If you were at the hearing, you got to hear some of the women that would like to have a leg up on those who would wish them harm. Approximately 20 percent of the current 6 million concealed firearm permit holders across the United States are women. Women are often the victims of violent assaults and are, generally speaking, physically weaker than their male attackers. LB 454 would allow women to even the playing field somewhat. Anyone who was on Judiciary hearing the bill will never forget the young rape victim who testified. She said she would have fought her attacker harder if she had a better chance to win. She believes that just possessing a firearm may have given her that chance. Most of the time you just show it, and they go off to the next easy patsy that they can get to be a victim. You know, a lot of these people, they're drug people. You know, meth has created a lot of theft and crime and violence. You know, they're not going to go for the person with the weapon that's trained in its use. They're going to go to the next patsy down the street and get them. So you just show it--they're gone. But she said if that would given her a chance...but as a law student, she does not carry a gun, not even out on the outside, because she fears that an arrest, as Senator Flood explained, an arrest for her as a law student would negatively affect her bar application. You know, whether