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June 3, 2005 LR 237-239, 243

for us as a Legislature to do than to secure the safety of our citizens. How can we put out incentives for businesses and not secure the safety of people who are working for How do you expect people to work all day and then businesses? come home to get behind bullet-proof walls because of fear of being shot? This is our last days to set in motion a plan to make the safety of citizens a priority. Fifteen people met death in Omaha since January 18. This is three a month, or a person every ten days. If there was a person being killed every ten days in my district, I would be on law enforcement with a vengeance, but we heard not a peep from the representatives of that area--unexcusable. We must address this situation and it should be taken care of. Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Fischer.

SENATOR FISCHER: Mr. President and members, I ask for the body's indulgence and I hope you will give me your attention for a few minutes here. There is a serious problem that the Legislature has not addressed this year and I can't think of a more appropriate place than to discuss it now. Every year in the Midwest cattle thieves rustle thousands of head livestock. These thefts not only result in millions of dollars in financial loss to farmers and ranchers, but also in higher places to consumers and great expense to taxpayers of Nebraska who pay for that law enforcement and the prosecution and the I would caution my colleagues that the old "incarcination." stereotype of rustlers as being grizzled, holed up in abandoned mines with half a full bottle of moonshine may no longer be accurate. A more modern rustler may very well be the button-down banking type, (laughter) coiled up with half a bottle of Chardonnay conveniently sealed and placed in a doggy bag at his favorite restaurant in a more urban setting like Omaha, Lincoln, or even Blair. (Laughter) I want to warn those modern day sidewinders that what us country folk may sometimes lack in "viligance" we more than make up for with long memories, and somewhere, sometime down the trail justice will be served. Mr. President, notwithstanding Mr. Mines' irresponsibility, I do intend to vote for the Legislative Resolution 243. Thank you. (Laughter)