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

January 11, 2006 LB 454

LB 454, I believe, is an approach that actually doesn't even make everyone happy but is certainly acknowledging of reality. And the reality is that Nebraska is behind other states in terms of recognizing Second Amendment freedoms, and that we need to and we can, in a reasonable format, bring Nebraska up to date with acknowledging these issues. And I don't want to take up a great deal of time, but I hope that we can act in a speedy way today on LB 454 and urge its advancement. Thank you.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Schimek, you're recognized.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in opposition to the overall bill, but in support of the Beutler amendment. And I too would like to acknowledge the work that Senator Combs has done on this bill. I know she feels passionately about it, and I know she believes that it is the right course to take. I just respectfully disagree. Not too long ago I was coming home from a meeting out of state, and I had picked up a newspaper, USA Today, which we frequently do when we're out of town, and there was a story in there from Philadelphia, and it was about the murder of a young man in Philadelphia. And it mentioned the fact that murders are on the rise in Philadelphia and that big-city crime is still a huge issue across the country. But what caught my attention about this article is that Philadelphia is really rather helpless to do anything about its gun laws, because it is prohibited from doing anything by the state of Pennsylvania. And the city of Philadelphia is appealing to the state to give them some flexibility. Now that was December 5. I don't know what has occurred in the interim. But it made me think, Senator Combs, about what we're doing here, and I have to confess to you, I haven't gone back and looked at the bill since last year, and I need to do that. But I just...it's been a busy time. Can you tell me, and I think I already know the answer, but if a Lincoln or Omaha, for instance, wanted to ban concealed weapons in their respective town or city, would they be able to do that under your bill?

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Senator Combs?