

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

January 11, 2006 LB 454

Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Just to respond to Senator Schimek's question earlier, I did check with Senator Flood and with some others, and said that...who advised that it would probably need to be tested in court, to test the legislative intent, in order that...to see if it is to be preemptive, so that citizens know where they can and cannot carry. Another question or comment was about the gun manufacturers wanting to sponsor this so that they make more money. I would contend that that might be equal to, perhaps, people that manufacture seat belts, when we made them mandatory, I mean, for protection. I don't think the nylon manufacturers were behind that. I mean, I think it's a bit of a stretch, unless, you know, someone is...I've not been approached by anyone from Colt, or Smith and Wesson, or anyone like that, to sponsor this bill. And frankly, the reason that I took this bill was not because anyone came from Washington and asked me, and I wouldn't think that Nebraska would be an easy mark, since we're going to be number 47 on the list. I don't see us as an easy mark for permission to carry concealed. When Senator Tyson had the bill, I was very interested. That was my first year in the Legislature, and I am very passionate about this myself. And the way that I approached him was, well, Elijah is leaving, and maybe if you'd like to pass your mantle on to Elisha, here I am. So probably not a great comparison, because he and I are a little bit, I suppose, like night and day in many other respects, but I did ask to carry this because of my interest in it. Violence, like I said before two years ago, three years ago, violence is in your heart, and I certainly respect and admire Senator Kruse for his statements about following Jesus Christ. I'm a Christian, and I'm not ashamed either, that I respect the way that people should be treated, and that we should try to treat others the way that we would like to be treated. Unfortunately, we live in a world where not everybody thinks that way, and we do deal with others who don't. I know when I read the article in the paper/just recently about the guy that got life for the lady that he assaulted and killed in Colon, Nebraska, the first thing that lady reached for was an unloaded gun. I'd never heard that before, but perhaps had this 66-year-old lady had training, maybe she would have had, you