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pickups. I think that this bill provides for the safer use of firearms, number one, through the education component; number two, through the appropriate storage of weapons. But above all, we need to realize that criminals will do with a gun whatever he or she chooses. Criminals will hide the guns; they won't go through the education, and they'll continue to do it, no matter what. And they might even do it drunk. And they'll probably even drive while concealing that weapon, and they'll be a greater danger to society in doing so. Come, let us reason together, you've often heard. This is a reasonable issue, reasonable policy, LB 454. You know, I kind of have to laugh at how many folks don't realize that numerous other states allow this opportunity for freedom-loving citizens to carry a gun as they wish. And you look at the Vermont style, this isn't even close to that. But I don't hear people saying that mentally ill and angry people all of a sudden just burst out and shoot people with a firearm in Vermont, or, quite frankly, our neighboring states. You'd swear that Nebraska would be population of 10 million, if this is such a safe place because you must show a gun in public if you're going to carry it. And, I mean, heaven forbid you hide it on your person, because then you're a criminal, or hide it under the seat of your car so that someone doesn't break in and steal it because it's clearly visible. So we're going to criminalize someone who appropriately stores a gun? That's ridiculous.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: That is absolutely ridiculous. I think a more educated public in the use of firearms is healthy public policy. When they go through the training, they understand what the issues are, what the concerns are, and we can come about public policy in a rational manner, and not be paranoid of those folks who behave in a negative manner, whether it's through alcohol or whatever. But certainly, we cannot fashion our public policy around those isolated situations. We're talking about law-abiding citizens deciding, for obvious reasons, to get the training, to become more educated, and even subjecting themselves to a background check. I think we can do good public policy here, and I urge the advancement of LB 454.