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

January 11, 2006 LB 454

I've been here the entire decade when this kind of legislation was attempted, and I've fought it. And I'm going to take the lion's share of the credit for having stopped it, and I want to keep my record intact. There were people who came before the Judiciary Committee and they...their faces were red, veins sticking out on their necks, some of them, and on their forehead as they spoke with great fervor and unctuousness and gave the distinct impression that if we didn't let them carry guns hidden immediately, they probably wouldn't live through the year. they come back again and again and again, and not one of them could relate any set of circumstances where not carrying a gun hidden had any impact on anything they were going to do. They exaggerate; some lie. I'm trying to be nice and follow suit based on what others had said. I can see these people, though, out in the hinterlands, because it is not that kind of an issue in the city, hiding in the outhouse, hiding under a stack of hay; a secret room in the silo in which he hides, no lights, hunkered down, camouflaged clothes, eyes darting to the right and the left. Any sound terrifies him and he will not emerge from there because he is terrified because he is not carrying a pistol hidden. Then, when somebody comes and say, George, you can carry a pistol hidden, he says, thank God, and he puts a pistol in every pocket in his clothes, and then he walks from his hideout in the silo and joins society. And now he can go to the grocery store, he can go to the sporting events his children attend, provided he doesn't carry a gun, and he can join society. Well, maybe those are the kind of people that Senator Combs knows and wants to help. I say they don't need a hidden pistol. They need therapy, that's what they need. And I would get silence when I would ask some of these zealots before the Judiciary Committee a question after I made a statement. statement was something like the following: We in the city are always told about how friendly the rural environs are, how everybody knows everybody, everybody helps everybody. I said, then why is it that you all are the ones hollering the loudest to be able to carry hidden pistols? In fact, you are afraid of your neighbors, aren't you? You are afraid of all those helpful people that you tell the city people about. Well, now they can't have it both ways, so usually there's some silence, then they'll sputter out something. There cannot be shown a need to have people going about armed with hidden firearms. Maybe it