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January 11, 2006 LB 454

SENATOR SMITH: And did you qualify that reference to law enforcement in any way?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Chief of police.

SENATOR SMITH: Your chief of police, or all chiefs of police across the state?

SENATOR THOMPSON: My chief of police brought the issue of that part of the bill to my attention.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. So then you carry that forward and use the term "law enforcement."

SENATOR THOMPSON: I said law enforcement in my community, but I have heard from law enforcement officers throughout the state on the whole concept of the bill. When I was talking about that, I said law enforcement in my community. I didn't name the chief, but that's who it was.

SENATOR SMITH: Right.

SENATOR THOMPSON: He's concerned because we have a volunteer...we have volunteers in his particular...in our city. It's a volunteer fire department...

SENATOR SMITH: Okay.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...and that's where a lot of the emergency services personnel come from. So this particular piece and the amendment that I put in to deal with it, which is coming up, that I filed last spring, was a result of his bringing that issue to my attention.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you. And I appreciate that clarification. Perhaps it was my own fault for not hearing the qualification of the law enforcement, but certainly what I got from the remarks earlier was that all law enforcement oppose LB 454 or have concerns with it, and we can throw up a litany of distractions and would-be, so-called and otherwise, but the fact is Nebraska