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FLOOR DEBATE

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is a state of diverse thought. Ninety-three counties, you can probably pick off a few sheriffs maybe and maybe a few chiefs of police. I have to say that the law enforcement officers that I hear from, who I hear from, they are in support of LB 454. I don't want to go naming names, but I have to say that the feedback that I get from law enforcement in a specific matter, and I'm not going to go say this group and that group, even though there are varying opinions out there, the law enforcement officers who I hear from do not have a problem with LB 454. In fact, they probably appreciate the training provisions that are contained in LB 454. They know that it's the criminals who are going to do whatever they please with LB 454. Let's look at stiffening the penalties for crimes committed with firearms, because law enforcement...law-abiding citizens are not affected by that. Guns don't pull their own triggers. I have a CDC study here that shows that death due to unintentional firearms hardly shows up in the study, less than 1 percent; and your chances are 51 times greater to be killed in a car accident, unintentional car accident; 26.7 times greater in an unintentional fall. I can't wait for bureaucrats to get ahold of that one. How are we going to get to the bottom of this, these unintentional falls? Unintentional suffocation, you're still 9.7 times more likely to die due to that than an unintentional firearm. There's a whole list here...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...and it certainly speaks for itself. Even when you look at the intentional deaths due to firearms, there's still a list far greater than those due to firearms. We need to reason together here. We have a good bill. Let's move it forward and make sure that it's not the criminals setting policy in Nebraska. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Thompson, on the motion to reconsider.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. In my hand I'm holding exhibits from the hearing on this bill, and this bill is...and this is a letter on behalf of the Sheriffs Association, stating it opposes the concept, also, of