

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

March 9, 2006

LB 454

"dissing" this bill without even having read it or looked at any data or looked at any of my handouts, as being a credible reason not to support the bill. So with all due apologies to the people that do sincerely, you know, watch and listen very closely to what the World-Herald and the Journal Star tell us, I have to beg to disagree that that is sound judgment when these people admit to having not even read the bill. Additionally, these same people argued the view that they were totally against gambling. Now, did all the members of our body embrace that philosophy just because we were advised to do so by these two newspapers? No, we did not. Please look at the handouts I've given you. We've also been told that the cops are against this, okay? And Mayor Seng also says here that her law enforcement people, wherever that is, are against it, where is this... "overwhelming majority of our police officers believe that a more liberal law concerning concealed firearms will increase the risk of confrontations involving guns and guns being misused." Okay. Have they read anything? Have they read the "17th Annual National Survey Results of the Police Chiefs and Sheriffs" that they sent me at my request? Firearms: Should any law-abiding citizen be able to purchase a firearm for sport or self-defense? Ninety-three point six percent, yes. Do you maintain that criminals currently are able to obtain basically any type of firearm by illegal means? Ninety-six point one percent, yes. Will a national concealed handgun permit reduce rates of violent crime, as recent studies in some states have reflected? Sixty-three point one percent, yes. And on down the line with this survey, and I have distributed that on the floor. So maybe we could share some of that with our local chiefs of police or the city of Lincoln law enforcement officers who has Coleen Seng as their spokesperson, saying that they are, a majority of them are against this bill. So I would invite them to call my office, and I'd be glad to share some information with them. Additionally,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you. Additionally, we had brought up a question about handling of a gun, somebody being shot by a gun going off. I took three days of handgun training myself, two days for proper use of a handgun, another day for concealed