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LB 454

Senator Chambers is speaking to this and that I speak to it. We represent two districts that have a lot of persons who are ethnic minority. This clearly...there is an ugly fact here that we simply need to recognize. This is a bill for whites only. And yes, there are other sections of Nebraska that have other folks and we ought not to control what the rest of Nebraska does, but I do hope that you fit into your head and into your thoughts that clear fact. Persons of color, not only African, persons of color will be treated fairly in being issued permits. They will not be treated quite as fairly if they're stopped on the road and have to show that they are carrying a gun, but they dare not use that gun against a person who is white. I have shared before the story of my friend, an African-American, African ancestry, who was attacked by four white men. He had a concealed carry. He tried to wing one of them. That person died. He spent six years in our prison system. It was clearly self-defense and if I had done it, I would have been off very quickly, but he's not. I'm assuming there are persons of color watching this, this afternoon, and I just say to you very sincerely and very directly, if this passes, do not assume that you can use a concealed carry weapon. You cannot. We all deplore that fact. It's not the way that we should be, but it's the reality of our system, it's the reality of life, it's the reality of life in the districts that Senator Chambers and I represent. I would feel negligent if I didn't put out that warning. But again, going back to Omaha (laugh) and a good share of Lincoln, do know that we know that. We know that already. That's why this bill would never pass in my district, or Senator Chambers' districts, or in other areas. It does not pass in the police department there or here in Lincoln because they know that.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR KRUSE: I simply want us to get our heads around the fact that there is a misplacement of justice that could bring some persons unwittingly into a conflict with law and the courts, in which they would be the big loser. I do hope that every citizen would take seriously the question of whether or not to carry, and I could go on with witnesses of chief...of police officers, former police officers, who have said to me, I