

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

March 29, 2006 LB 1227

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Cornett, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR CORNETT: Good morning, Mr. President and members of the body. LB 1227 would provide for language changes in state statute to reflect federal requirements of the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. These changes are needed to ensure Nebraska State Patrol and Nebraska firearm vendors continue to have access to the system. The NICS system is used to obtain a handgun purchase certificate as required by state Statute 69-2403 through 69-2406, and by Nebraska vendors when completing the required background check during a transaction involving a weapon. In the past, the legislative body has declared a valid interest in the regulation of purchase, lease, rental, and transfer of handguns, and requiring your certificate prior to these events occurring serves a valid public purpose. The U.S. Department of Justice had asked the Nebraska State Patrol to make these modifications by September 30, 2005. The date has since passed, however, this is the first legislative session available to address this need. In specific, LB 1227 defines a criminal history records check, includes citizenship information as part of the certificate application process, extends the time allowed to conduct an investigation prior to issuing a certificate from two to three days, and specifically directs that a criminal history records check include a check of the criminal history records of Nebraska, the state of Nebraska, State Patrol, and Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Instant Criminal Background Check System. As provide...provisions of LB 1227 does not substantively change the day-to-day operations of the Nebraska State Patrol, it does however satisfy the requirements of the U.S. Department of Justice. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Cornett. As stated by the Clerk, there are committee amendments. Senator Bourne, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. The committee amendment simply adds the emergency clause onto the bill because the changes in our state law are required so that