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the e-mail system that they have that triggers all the e-mails that come to our offices, when I first got here, it was the phone calls and letters, they're very well organized. And we've only got... I can only think of two or three other groups in...that are this organized in Nebraska. They're nationally funded so they're able to do the things that give them kind of a bigger than life presence. And sometimes for us people think we're real tough and that we've got, you know, no...we don't let things bother us, but when you have people that call and accuse you of wanting people to be raped because they don't have a gun, that more crime is going to happen in the community because people don't have guns, it makes you feel bad. Well, that...if you...if you talk to law enforcement and people who deal with those kinds of situations every day, they tell you people ought to have pepper spray. They aren't going to shoot somebody that they made a mistake about. They aren't using deadly force. You don't have to aim. You don't have to worry about all the consequences of carrying a big gun around all the time. down and listened to those people and, you know, pepper spray is And you'll be more effective and you won't a good idea. hesitate. And if it gets taken away from you, you won't be killed. I mean that's...I think we should listen to the experts in the field. But a lot of people got a lot of pressure put on them over this bill and I sympathize with all of you. You know, we have these conversations off the mike and you say to me, well, you know, I really don't want to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...vote for this thing but, you know, all these people asked me and they made me make assurances. Well, you know, now is the time to vote and you don't have to. I mean, it's time to vote what you know is right and, you know, I know it's difficult. I know it's difficult, but let's think about the majority, the majority of people in our community. I mean, they came up to me after the first two votes, people I hardly knew, and said, you know, what the heck is going on? And I said to them, well, there isn't a group that lobbies against this. The first year I was here the handgun people, the Brady group, and it was fairly close to after President Reagan was shot and they had some resources then, they had a lobbyist and