

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion prevails and the Chair recognizes Senator Chambers for closing.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I want to touch briefly on a number of comments made by various members of the Legislature. Senator Beutler had indicated that compared to some of the good things the government has done I guess through mandating, this is trivial by comparison, a small thing being asked. If it is a freedom and that is the question, then you ask, do you trade away your freedom in nibbles, a nibble here, a nibble there, and it doesn't matter because of the size or quantity of it. You can't really quantify freedom. The idea is you either have it or you don't. If the government can take a nibble, it can take a whole bite. Now Senator Morehead and then Senator Marsh echoed a strange thing, that passing this bill would be a courageous act. It would be a courageous act. I am in old England, riding a horse down a dark road in the forest. and a highwayman steps out and puts a gun up to my ear and says, Chambers, give me your money. It doesn't take courage for me to go into my pocket and give him the money. Courage would be, and it might be foolish, is to take the gun and make him eat it. So if the federal government has put a gun to the head of the Legislature and said pass this bill, sucker, it doesn't take courage to pass that bill. It would take courage to tell the government you have got your characters reversed. You are the sucker to try to compel me to do this, and then tell the federal government what to do with this particular one. As Senator Beutler correctly pointed out, there are some programs where governmental intervention is necessary for the benefit of the citizens at large or certain groups of the citizens who can't protect themselves. I can't resist this one, but before I get to that, Senator Morehead mentioned 30 other countries, 30 other countries. If those countries believe it, those countries enacted countrywide laws. Countries, and there are different countries that have provinces and states and other little subdivisions. If the federal government thinks it is good, let the federal government do it for this country, Senator Morehead. Nebraska does not legislate for this country. So if America is to join these other 30 countries, let the U.S. government through its legislative authority enact a federal law requiring seat