

it is. In the southwestern part of this state the majority of our grain goes into Colorado and into Kansas and particularly our feed grains, going to the feedlots in those states. What this bill is doing in real simple terms is allowing a tractor, a truck tractor with the engine in front to hook on to the same trailer that a cab over tractor can hook onto right now in this state. All we are doing is allowing that extra five foot of engine to count on the overall length. The bridge length that Senator Kremer is referring to is the distance in length between the drive axles on the tractor and the axles on the rear of the trailer. With a cabover truck on a forty five foot trailer the distance is naturally longer than it is with a noncabover truck than a conventional truck hooked onto a forty foot trailer and the reason we have the additional or the restriction on the amount of weight on the combined length is because of the bridges of this state. As they go across the bridge you are spreading it out farther. With the longer weight we allow a little bit more weight but we are really not increasing the total weight in that truck at all. The 34,000 pound limit as Senator Kremer has stated several times is staying exactly the same. We are not allowing any more weight to be put per axle on our highways. So there will be no more damage to the highways than there is right now. All we are really allowing is for that grain trailer or cattle trailer or any other kind of trailer for that matter in this state, to be pulled by either a conventional truck or a cabover truck and in essence that is all this bill does. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Fowler.

SENATOR FOWLER: Would Senator Kremer yield to a couple of questions?

PRESIDENT: Senator Kremer, would you respond?

SENATOR KREMER: I will.

SENATOR FOWLER: Senator Kremer, do you know how much we have increased the weight and length of trucks in this Legislature in the past few years? Do you have any idea?

SENATOR KREMER: No. I think it was about eight years ago that we dealt with this situation but I don't remember the exact more length that we allowed in Nebraska or the weight.

SENATOR FOWLER: One of my concerns is, Senator Warner provided me a chart from other states as to length and weight