

Douglas, who was then the Attorney General, to file a lawsuit to have that bill declared unconstitutional, and I tried to warn the Governor and I gave legal arguments to Paul showing why the bill would be upheld, and in fact it was. So if we are telling a lie, the State Supreme Court is complicit in it. But no lie was really told. Everything was stated frankly at the time in terms of what was attempted. I wanted to do everything I could to weaken that speed limit if I couldn't get it abolished. Some of you who have been here awhile know that I've tried forthrightly to have it abolished and have been unsuccessful. Last year the Legislature passed a bill. Governor Kerrey, then Governor Kerrey, who was having some romantic problems, decided that he had to lash out at somebody, so he picked the largest target on the horizon, lashed out at me and hurt the citizens of this state in the process by vetoing that bill. Now we are here today to do that which the federal government says we can do, which a number of us knew was the wise thing to do all along, because various attempts that I have made have been advanced to the Legislature. There has always been strong support. So there is no way, although I wish I could, that I could take complete credit for what is happening this morning or what has happened in the past. But sometimes it takes an individual whose willing to be a half a step in front of everybody else to make sure that something moves. So this morning we all now are going to vote on something that will benefit this state. And to be completely honest with you, on Select File, who knows.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Wesely, please, then Senator Hefner.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I woke up this morning and took a look at the paper and saw that signs were already being changed to the new speed limit that is anticipated to be passed here in the next few days. I think the writing is on the wall as to how this legislation will fare but, nevertheless, some loyal opposition perhaps needs to be expressed. As I have in the past, I do oppose the increase in the speed limit. In the past we had a very strong argument that eventually overruled the sentiments of this body, which has passed legislation in the past but seen that legislation vetoed by governors, what is a fear of loss of federal funds, that has been the strongest argument, ultimately, that stopped this Legislature from acting. I think there are other arguments that still remain, but that argument now being removed by federal legislation has left us in a situation where those pictures and that action by the Roads Department will probably be borne true