

those people who are opposed draw the line, and it is on the statistics that indicates how many of them die. Last year I want to tell you is that 30 people died in Nebraska. Of those, two were wearing helmets. Twenty-eight of the 30 died. The year before that, 26 people died in Nebraska. Twenty-three were not wearing helmets. There are 45 states in this country that have helmet laws. It makes sense. The only states that do not have a law of any kind are Colorado, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, and Connecticut. You may have gotten letters from people saying I am a veteran and a voter. Well, let me remind all of you who may be veterans, I don't how many of you belong to the DAV and VFW and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion like I do, but we are veterans, a lot of us are, one way or the other. If they were in the service, they would certainly be veterans and I will tell you why, because the services have created a policy, all of them, Army, Navy, Marine Corp, Coast Guard, and the National Guard, that says when you are on or off base, when you are on or off duty and you are riding a motorcycle and you do not have a helmet on, you are discharged because they will not tolerate that kind of selfishness, the kind of irresponsibility that goes along with that. All I want to tell you is that the services recognize the responsibility they had, not just for the people that serve within those organizations, but to society and to the cost that goes along with this kind of selfishness as well. This is a very important piece of legislation. Please be swayed by the facts. Don't be swayed by those arguments that might be not nearly as important, and keep in mind that when you don't support something like this, you support the ongoing misery and the death, and that is unfair. That is no one's right to do. I would ask and plead with you to support this amendment and the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Landis, please, and then Senator Moore.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this is an ironic day for me in that 7 years ago I introduced a helmet bill, sat in the committee with me, three letters from some doctors, and about 400 black leather jackets, and the bill didn't last about three minutes after I left the room and it got killed. I thought I was right then, and the underlying policy issue I think is right now. Dan Lynch says that this bill makes sense, and on one level I agree with him. He says it saves lives and I agree with him. It saves lives. The freedom of choice argument that you hear, in my estimation is a sham,