

February 5, 1993 LB 25

had not expanded, so that will automatically produce an incorrect reading. The State Patrol officer did not disagree with this. I asked him a series of questions about the deficiencies in the mechanical speedometer, and he did not disagree with any of them. But he said, people can take it to court, and that's what they do, and I pointed out that since there are intrinsic deficiencies in the mechanical speedometer, the citizens are getting tickets that we can presume are not good tickets, but because it is so expensive to hire a lawyer and go to court, most people will go ahead and plead guilty and pay the ticket even though it probably was invalid. The State Patrol has this opposition. I called the Colonel this morning. Every State Patrol car is equipped with radar and some, about two-thirds of them, are equipped with radar and VASCAR. There is no patrol car which has only a mechanical speedometer. The amendment I will discuss with you after you may want to ask me questions about the bill as it stands now, but let me tell you what the bill does not involve. The bill does not take away the patrol's power to use VASCAR, and if you want me to explain how any of these devices operate, I will. It does not take away their power to use radar. It does not take away their power to use the electronic stopwatches that they use in connection with aerial clockings. So they can continue to use VASCAR, radar, and aircraft clocks. They want to keep the horse and buggy mechanical speedometer,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and I think if by policy the patrol itself will not update, then the Legislature should as a policy determination do so. Remember, the people who get these bad tickets run the risk of having their points taken off their license, and their insurance rates affected. I have never been convicted on a clocking made by a speedometer, and that would be the easiest thing in the world to beat because of inherent defects. So if you all think because of what the World-Herald has improperly indicated that I am trying to help speeders, the contrary is true. I am saying that we want the most sophisticated, accurate, updated means of measuring speed...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that are available.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, I have