

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 30, 1999 LB 179, 480A, 530, 585

CLERK: 37 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of 530.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: LB 530 is advanced. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, two items for the record before we proceed, if I might. LB 480A (read by title for the first time). I have amendments from Senator Janssen Robak to LB 179 to be printed. (See page 1287 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, LB 585, originally introduced by Senator Bromm. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 19, referred to Transportation, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM0858 is found on page 1134 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Bromm, you are recognized to open on LB 585.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Senator Wickersham and senators. This is LB 585, which I have made a priority bill for this session for myself and, in just discussing the bill, opening on the bill, I'm going to allude to the committee amendments as well because that really becomes the bill. So the bill contains several provisions which I consider to be related to highway safety and a goal that I think is important of trying to do some things which would bring about, hopefully, some reduction in the fatalities that we see on our state highways. In looking at what provisions could be undertaken in this area, in addition to the seat belt provision which is not in this bill and which is contained in a bill that Senator Byars introduced, other provisions that seem to merit looking at included whether or not we should change the two-tier point system that we have in this state. I refer to it as a two-tier point system because we have one tier of points that you lose if you are speeding on a state highway or two-lane road and another set of points which you lose if you're on the interstate system. As you know, we increased the speed limits on the interstate system in 1996 and, when we did that, we left in place a somewhat liberal, not as stringent, a point system as we had in place on the state highway. So you could actually, even though we raised it to 75 miles an hour, you could actually speed on the interstate and