

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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April 23, 1999 LB 704

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Peterson, would you yield?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Peterson, has this bill been...was this bill discussed on General File?

SENATOR C. PETERSON: No, it was not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Because of the wide ranging authority of this commission, it's like a roving commission. It can do virtually everything, and I realize that all it does ultimately is to make recommendations. But to put the imprimatur of the Legislature on an effort as comprehensive as this is not something I'm prepared to do. Maybe the rest of the body will, but because I cannot satisfy myself that this is appropriate, I will not support it and I will not support LB 704 if it is attached. I'm not confident that a commission like this ought to have all the members appointed by the Governor. Maybe it should. I don't know that the membership is appropriate. The Chairperson of the Transportation Committee, or his or her designee, and the Chairperson of the Banking Committee, or his or her designee. Then these other groups, the truckers association, they want to lower the speed limit, they want to increase penalties. The Nebraska County Attorneys Association, they usually want to increase penalties and they love to lock people up in jail. The State Patrol wants to increase penalties. This is almost like one of those juries from which you can eliminate everybody who is opposed to the death penalty, and you set up a jury whose decision is just about predetermined by the predilections of the members of the jury. So this is an amendment that I will oppose, and I'd like to ask Senator Bromm a question.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute. Senator Bromm, would you yield?

SENATOR BROMM: I would.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Bromm, how much does LB 704 mean to you?

SENATOR BROMM: LB 704 is a relatively important bill for our committee, and I think for the state. I support the bill, as