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LB 126, 267

Legislature. There are three things in the amendment, and then I don't think we're done here today. I believe Senator Hilgert is contemplating an amendment. I think Senator Brashear is contemplating an amendment, and he's said so on the floor. I'd just like to take this opportunity to wrap up this portion of it to see where we are. Maybe there are the votes, maybe there aren't, but it would at least clarify things. Many of you are concerned about young people suffering consequences, and I have to say that in other contexts I've been helpful on that score. I've been helpful on the use of the driver's license in various cases. I certainly would support a magnetic strip. I've asked, the same as you have, for our DMV to do some work. I think there are lots of areas there for agreement, just not on this bill at this time. The pieces in this bill right now have all been through the hearing process, and have been ruled on and at one time were bills that were moving forward in the Legislature. And that, I think, spells...and, by the way, have not been rejected by the body in the form of, let's say, the committee amendments to LB 126. Secondly, on respect to the compliance checks, it's true, most of these violations come from compliance checks. The reason you use compliance checks is because the Liquor Control Commission needs to use the Highway Patrol That's how they enforce. The Highway Patrol asked the Liquor Control Commission, they said, look, we can stake out a place and we'll find a minor buying liquor but it'll take us five or six hours to wait for that to happen. We could be out doing out business if we arranged for the compliance check. This was the Highway Patrol's way of using their time as efficiently as possible. It was their suggestion and, frankly, I think that's probably as legitimate a use of their time so they can get back out and catch serious violent crimes. Lastly, I...well, I'll save a couple of other points for the other members that may be forward. I do think this is a fair and reasonable way to proceed. I expect it to be used not in every occurrence. I expect it to be used in those occurrences when there is something distinguishing, something egregious that needs to be applied. And for that reason, I trust the Liquor Control Commission, the group that the state gave the responsibility to, to carry out the enforcement of these laws. When they ask us for a tool, that we give them a tool for what is obviously a serious social problem, and that's teen drinking. This is what they have asked us for and we've charged them to be our experts