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treatment that saves lives. I am...there are all sorts of trauma facts that you have on your desk. I'm not going to go over those for you. I think that they're very self-explanatory. You look at the number of trauma deaths in the state of Nebraska last year, they were part of the top four leading causes of death in our state. Males between the ages of 1 and 44, it was the number one cause. Of the 109,000 ambulance runs made last...made in 1997, 27 percent of them were trauma runs. Forty percent of all trauma deaths occur within one hour of injury. I think this probably highlights more than anything else the importance of having an adequate system set up that allows us to communicate medically as quickly as possible and have individuals trained the best way possible in order to treat those trauma injuries when they occur. Medicaid costs in the state of Nebraska alone, in 1998, was almost \$5 million from trauma injuries. This does not include the associated rehabilitation costs of folks with TBI, trauma brain injury. And if we had a system in place that could help us communicate better, help us be trained better to respond to these circumstances, it's estimated that we would save at least an additional 10 percent of those people that are dying from trauma fatalities every year. The lost wages alone from those individuals are nearly \$1 million. It does not take very long to start totaling up what the cost to us as a society is when we start to talk about what the costs from trauma injury is. I think it just very clearly justifies 50 cents added to every motor vehicle registration to fund a system that this Legislature put in place. This Legislature not only set up a plan, but then they took that plan and they put in an implementation procedure and it was fully their intent to move forward with a system that was going to be of service to all Nebraskans. And I'm going to conclude, I'm obviously, you know, past the allotted time. I feel very badly about that.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: I wish I could waive the magic wand and be able to present this to you further, but hopefully take this information with you, help digest it. I doubt very seriously with, as the Speaker has informed us, that we're going to have an opportunity to come back to this, but I think it's an issue that we have to deal with, we must deal with, and we must be, I