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LB 303

is an interesting dilemma because it, I mean if we're really talking about personal freedom here, this is a...this is where the rubber meets the road. But I guess that if we look at the statistics about that unhelmeted motorcyclists are over three times as likely to suffer brain injury compared to helmeted motorcyclists, then we are going to have a three times greater likelihood that we have individuals who are potential organ donors as a result of adopting this legislation, if we choose to do that. And, therefore, if we are looking at the facts and not at these individuals as the human beings that they are, if we're looking at that fact, and if we're talking about this in terms of finances, a doctor, the other night, shared with me that the spin-off economic benefit from organ donation for one...for all the organs in one body, the spin-off benefit is \$15 million for each body. And so if this argument is about what is financially advantageous for the state in terms of tourism, not in terms of obviously our Medi...controlling our Medicaid costs, but maybe we can balance off our increased Medicaid costs with the opportunity to have the spin-off benefits from organ donation. It is difficult for me to make this...these remarks in light of the very real personal stories that have been shared on the floor. And in order to be able to be fairly serious about this amendment, I think you have to be fairly dispassionate about it, and it's difficult for me to be dispassionate in light of the very personal stories that have been shared. But if I'm going to be dispassionate, if I'm going to say this is something that we're going to do because it's good economic development, we're going to make the chance of Nebraska citizens who choose to not wear a helmet three times more likely to have brain injury, then I will probably support the Pedersen amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Erdman, followed by Senators Byars, Baker, Schimek, Smith, Vrtiska, Price, Cunningham, and Bourne. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I rise in opposition to AM0789, and I rise in support of LB 303. I don't rise in support of LB 303 because I don't know the effects of not wearing a helmet. When I was three years old, I can remember sitting around the kitchen table and I can remember my grandmother, my mother, my cousin, who is