

that we have. In the City of Omaha, there is great complaints about the damage it has done in terms of the rutting and how we have to tear up the streets to bring it down to level again and that creates a great safety hazard. We wouldn't have had to do that if we hadn't had studded snow tires wearing those grooves. Twelve million dollars a year could be saved by eliminating studded snow tires. Twelve million dollars at today's cost. What is it going to be when oil reaches \$50, \$60 a barrel and it is going to reach that. The three years, by the time we have finally banned these studded snow tires, it is going to reach that kind of cost and the maintenance costs will be double what they are today. So we are talking about in 1982 dollars or 1983 dollars, we are talking probably about twenty-four million dollars. That is equal, that is equal to three cents on the gas tax, three cents today. Now the fact is is that this Legislature is being asked each and every year, I sit on the Revenue Committee and there is always a proposal to raise the gas tax. Now we cannot continue to tax the people in Nebraska.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have got one minute.

SENATOR NEWELL: We have got to provide some economies and this proposal is exactly the way we can provide those economies. It is right. It is reasonable and it is just. The exemptions we have provided are very limited and most of the exemptions are people that do not use studded snow tires anyways as Senator Cope pointed out. Studded snow tires are a luxury. They are a luxury we no longer can afford. They are an illusion. They are an illusion we no longer can afford. They are a safety hazard to everyone in this state and we can no longer afford that. We need to ban studded snow tires and we need to do it now. We need to save the twelve million and later those costs will rise to twenty-four million and the Legislature must act responsibly on this issue. It must pass this bill. It is the only responsible thing to do, and with that I ask you for your support. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is to advance 619 to E & R for review. All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 14 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is carried. The bill advanced. We are ready now to read LB 618.