

accidents are the greatest cause of death after birth to the child from infancy through five years of age. Six hundred and sixty-nine children could be alive today if we had restrictive legislation available in our country rather than having it be limited to the few states which have started moving in this direction. I very much want Nebraska to be state number three, moving in the direction to protect those who are not in the position to protect themselves. One of the questions asked is, how do you know when your bill speaks to the requirement to exceed federal regulations? I have a sheet in my hand and a copy has been shared with each of you, from the Sears Catalogue and at the very top it says, "Sears cars meet or exceed the federal vehicle standard for child restraint systems." Moderately costs for protection of a family; loaned by friends back and forth like other types of child care equipment are loaned, the cost to a family is modest, particularly when you consider that the cost of even a minor fender bender means a trip to hospital to have the forehead sewn up and that emergency room trip to the hospital is at least \$55 in the State of Nebraska, and it is a great deal more than that in the City of Lincoln. The investment in the lives of our children at a dollar cost; one of the pediatricians who appeared at the public hearing explained about the possibility of service clubs lending child restraint systems. The child in an automobile accident is safer than the parent, because the safety is inversely related to the age and weight of the child. That simple fender bender, the so-called minor accident, becomes a major accident when it is a seven pound infant in an automobile that is stopped going thirty miles an hour because you put the seven pounds of infant times that thirty miles an hour and you come out with the child striking the dashboard or windshield with 210 pounds of force. The physicians in the public hearing spoke about the cost of repairing a child, financial cost to the family or to the State of Nebraska, the mental retardation, the other serious medical problems which last a lifetime when the child is injured in an accident. We use transportation nearly every day of the year. We have children who are standing in the front seat or the back seat. The real need for legislative bill 69 is to help inform parents, guardians and other persons who are responsible for young children in the State of Nebraska. Were you to see the movie which the committee saw, using only models to see the impact of that body hurling through the air, you would already be convinced. The material which has been shared with you is factual