

amendment to this amendment to lower it to 25 through the City of Omaha, then we would really be safe. Senator Beyer pointed out the accidents on the interstate system on the radio and I listen to the radio in the mornings also, not because I am out there commuting but just to be listening to the radio to hear what the news is and I would suggest that there are also pile ups on other streets in the City of Omaha, namely Dodge Street and many other places where I have heard that there were traffic problems and I think they do have lower speed limits in many of those places than 55 and still have fender benders. So perhaps we should just simply lower the speed limit to a reasonable figure that would really save lives in the City of Omaha, put it down to 25 and maybe that would really do the job that they are after.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, on the surface it would appear that there is much ado here about nothing because the principle that whether or not we increase the speed limit is not going to change the facts of life very much. At the present time on the interstate you can drive 65 miles an hour and you will receive a ten dollar fine, no court costs and no points. If the letter of the law were followed in this instance you would be legal up until 65. Senator Hoagland would like to hold it down to 55 in the City of Omaha and I can see his rationale because of the high density of the traffic there. Actually what we are talking about here is perhaps the wish on the part of some of us that by increasing the speed limit to 65 on the interstate that the Patrol will give us a little more grace of three or four miles per hour to 67, 8, or 9. Insofar as I am concerned the vast majority of the citizens of the State of Nebraska are still going to travel on the secondary roads and the speed limit is going to still remain there at 55. I see absolutely nothing to be gained at this time by passing this law. I am sorry to disagree with my good friend Senator Chambers but I don't think the three or four mile per hour additional you can get above the 65 hoping you are in the grace area is going to be sufficient but I have a hunch the Patrol will be very meticulous about enforcement anything over 65 miles per hour. I know that other states they are very punctual about enforcing the 55 per hour speed limit. I don't like to drive below 55 but I am being convinced that I am going to have to if I am going to continue to drive at all. There is something else that I think we need to talk about and that is the trend toward the smaller automobiles. I don't like to drive in a motorized beer can at even 55 miles per hour because I have seen what can happen when those vehicles strike an abutment but many of those