

engines in those small vehicles are going to have a dickens of a time getting above 55 and lasting any length of time. Also the smaller vehicle is going to be in competition on the interstate with the heavy trucks and when you put that small vehicle next to a heavy truck at 65 you are asking for a lot of trouble. It would not surprise me one of these days if the rush to small automobiles continues, that we will have special lanes at least for trucks and some for the small vehicles. I really think that we will not gain one thing by the passage of this bill. I hate to disagree with Senator Chambers. I do not think the Patrol will give us a grace range of four or five miles per hour. I think they will enforce the 65 miles per hour speed limit and they will do so punctually and maybe with a little more enthusiasm than they even today enforce the present law. I have stayed out of this. I am not going to commit myself yet at the point as to what I will do on the bill but I think that when you look at the high density traffic Omaha has, I think Senator Hoagland has a point and I think that when you look at the facts of life over the next few years, the smaller vehicles, the increased price of gasoline, the small engines in those vehicles are not going to have the performance that you might want to operate at 65 miles an hour. We may not like it but it looks like we are locked into a position of 55 miles per hour. There is also the possibility...

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have a minute left.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...that the federal government will take an action in this area. If they do so and make it nationwide that is a different story but I think there is also an element of confusion when we have 55 as a legal speed limit on the secondary highways and 65 as the legal speed limit on the interstate so at this time I would suggest that we perhaps support Senator Hoagland's amendment and then eventually kill the bill.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the Hoagland amendment because I think it will make the bill too palatable and then the bill may pass. As you well know I represent an area where there is a lot of wide open spaces and there are a lot of people out there that would like to see the speed limit increased all over the state, however, I am firmly convinced that the reduction in speed limit to 55 miles an hour has saved fuel, has saved lives. So I would like to see the speed limit remain at that point and so as I mentioned before I will vote against Senator