

I think we should defeat the kill motion and advance the bill. Then whatever happens on Final Reading would have to happen.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have not participated in this debate extensively although I have always been a supporter of Senator Chambers' proponent to raise the speed limit to sixty-five. I supported it in the Public Works Committee at a time when virtually no one else thought they could vote for that bill. And so I do believe that we should raise the speed limit, do it honestly, but I rise at this point in time in opposition to Senator DeCamp's kill motion for many of the reasons that have been stated previously. But to me there is a more basic fundamental issue that I have not heard addressed in the entire debate on the speed limit and that is the fallacy that really exists under the current fifty-five mile an hour speed limit in allowing the, as Senator Chambers calls it, the ten mile per hour grace period. What we are really doing is saying to the law that in the State of Nebraska the speed limit is fifty-five and then we are saying, "Go ahead and break it and we will do everything we can to encourage you to break that speed limit and we won't punish you extensively if you do violate the speed limit". So what we are really doing under the current system with this so-called grace period or ten mile an hour grace system is encouraging what I think is a disrespect for law and order and a disrespect for the statutes of the State of Nebraska. I don't like to see us encouraging people to violate the law. Whatever the law of the State of Nebraska is, I think many people try to live within it and there is something wrong with us establishing a law and establishing a limit and then encourage people to violate that law. And so I very much oppose the grace period, as Senator Chambers has called it, and that is the provision in LB 143 that I like now. We are finally starting to treat people the same statewide for the same violations. In my legislative district, we don't have an interstate system, and in my legislative district when you exceed the speed limit and you are fined, you are fined and points are assessed against you. If you are exceeding the speed limit on the interstate system, you don't have points assessed against you and I guess I think there is something fundamentally wrong with a system that treats people differently for the very same infraction just because they happen to be driving along on two different highway systems. We should treat people similarly for the same offense. I am not so concerned about what that penalty is or what the speed limit is but I am concerned that first of all the Legislature should not encourage people to violate the law and, secondly,