

were very strong at that time. They didn't want to pay claims for whatever reasons and they were able to get through into law a provision that said guests were not allowed to collect damages for injuries done to them except for gross negligence. Almost all those states that put it in during that time, including Connecticut, the insurance capital of the United States, have repealed their guest statutes as being unconscionable, improper, wrong and unfair. This year, working with the insurance industry and the various others involved in the legislation, we have fashioned what I hope will be acceptable to the body and has been accepted by the insurance industry for the first time, a proposal to repeal the guest statute in about 90% of the cases. The committee amendments make it so that in cases of certain relationships, and I can be more specific on that, it would be like grandmother, grandfather, daughters, sisters, this kind of thing, it would not apply, but to the general public or 90% of the cases, it would indeed apply and we would be repealing this guest statute. So, I would urge adoption of the committee amendments and then I would urge you to advance the bill to Select File and I will repeat, this has been attempted in here I guess twenty-six separate times under one form or another. It has always failed. I promised I would make a very strong attempt this year and try to work out something, working with the insurance industry. They have agreed this year to accept this repeal. I urge adoption of the committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we proceed, underneath the South balcony it is my privilege to introduce Mike and Donna Peterson, the son and daughter-in-law of Senator and Mrs. Richard Peterson. Will you please stand so we can say good morning to you. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Unicameral, may I have a question of Senator DeCamp? Senator DeCamp, the opponents who appeared against the bill are now in favor of the bill? Is this what you said, the Nebraska Insurance....(interruption)

SENATOR DeCAMP: I don't think that is a completely accurate statement. The opponents of the bill have withdrawn their opposition. I think that is a fair statement. That they would ever be in favor of it, I think is really pushing the matter too far. They are neutral, let's say.

SENATOR HABERMAN: It would sure be and, thank you, it would be interesting, that is all the questions I have, to know how you got to be, them to be neutral, but that is another thing...

SENATOR DeCAMP: That....