

March 9, 1981

LB 22

places throughout the state. We can expect the technical colleges in this state to utilize this bill. We can expect them to have in place next year a motorcycle safety course. Hopefully, private enterprise which is by no means limited or restricted by the bill will also offer such an approved course with an approved instructor and, of course, schools if they wish may also offer an approved course. An approved course means meeting the standards outlined by the Department of Education and having an approved instructor. Approved instructors are those that meet the Motorcycle Safety Foundation's approval standards. Those standards will be written into law by the Department of Education. We have approximately a hundred of those trainers right now in the state. The Kearney Safety Center is in a position to train and to continue to turn out as it has trained, approved motorcycle safety instructors. So we have a body of people now able to train. Now they are out there and all they need is a successful course. We find that the difficulty from those courses is overhead. We find the difficulty is being certain there will be a financial return and so this money up to \$40 per student will be reimbursed to the program after they turn out a graduate. There is an additional incentive in this bill to allow for people to sign up and want to sign up for the course and that is because instructors who offer... or rather driver's license examiners are capable and allowed under the bill of exempting successful graduates from the on-bike portion of the motorcycle course. Those are the provisions of LB 22. It springs from a two-year study in the area of motorcycle safety. It has the support, if you look on the committee amendments, which have those people that were there in person and there were also letters from all portions of the motorcycle operating public. The Offstreet Motorcycle Association supports it. ABATE supports it. The Department of Education has spoken in favor of the bill. We have been hard at work for two years and the result of it is LB 22. I hope you will support the bill.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Haberman, on the bill itself.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the Unicameral, a question of Senator Landis.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Landis, will you respond?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Landis, do you have to take the course to get a license?