

SENATOR LANDIS: Right.

SENATOR COPE: Now what I want to ask, what qualifications must an instructor have? Where do they receive the training to be instructors?

SENATOR LANDIS: The qualifications are generally outlined by the bill and will be more specifically outlined by the rules and regs of the Department of Education. They essentially mean, however, someone who has met an approved training course. That approved training course is a rigorous course of study of I believe well over a hundred classroom hours, years of experience on the bikes as well who are familiar with...who has driven or has ridden a motorcycle for a couple of years, and so they have both training and experience in the area of education on motorcycle training.

SENATOR COPE: Well, that's what I wanted to be sure. The Nebraska Safety Center are doing that very thing now. They are training instructors and I wanted...and especially I am interested in the free enterprise aspect and nobody believes in free enterprise more than I do, but I am wondering if the instructors that are associated with the groups, the free enterprise, must have the same qualifications.

SENATOR LANDIS: Everyone must meet the same standard of qualification. They do not have to meet like for example in a high school where you have to have a college degree or something like that, those kinds of qualifications aren't there. We are talking having passed an approved course, having experience on motorcycles. Those same standards will apply across the board for whoever teaches this class in whatever context. Those standards would have to be met by a private business organization, by somebody teaching in a school, somebody teaching in a tech college.

SENATOR COPE: Well, that's what I wanted to know for sure. Now who does the checking up and watching the various groups, that is to be sure that this is carried out like it should whether it be for enterprise or state?

SENATOR LANDIS: The Department of Education has the responsibility for administering the program and in the event that a course is not working out, they can take away an instructor's permit in the event that instructor is not simply meeting adequate standards and doing a good enough job, is not training people well enough.