

Legibility, I have already talked about the fact that the beads-on-paint tend to be more legible than the fully reflectorized plates and I think there were some tests done out at Central Nebraska Tech with police and sheriffs and a representative from the State Patrol this summer. The purpose of the test was to see if the plates could be seen at six hundred feet to determine which system could be read at the greatest distance. The responses were that at distances greater than six hundred feet the first thing the officers noticed was the reflectorized taillights. Both reflectorized plates were visible at six hundred feet. The reflectorization of letters on numerals could be read at greater distances than the other plate. The sheeting plate fully reflectorized was brighter and could be seen at a greater distance. The brightness of the sheeting plate fully reflectorized interfered with the identification process for law enforcement purposes. There have been a lot of tests done on these two types of reflectorization and for my own part I can't honestly say that the totality of it all is very convincing in one direction or another but that kind of leads me to the conclusion that if the case is so close, and if there are substantial possible monetary savings from using beads-on-paint....

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have twenty seconds.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...then perhaps it makes some sense to allow the Department of Motor Vehicles to take bids on beads-on-paint as well as the other type. I would also point out just in closing that we are going into a period of hard times where we need money for a lot of purposes. The \$500,000, the million dollars, the million and a half dollars, the two million dollars, whatever it is we would save using this system, I would argue very strongly could be much better spent on a number of other things. The additional safety that you would get out of the brightness of a fully reflectorized plate just is not worth the price that the 3M Company is suggesting we spend on it. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman. We are all speaking to the DeCamp amendment now.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the Unicameral, I believe that the issue here is the taking of bids, allowing two companies to bid, allowing two processes to be offered, and then letting the people who decide this to purchase, make the decision. The Legislature does not set the size of the automobile license plate, Senator DeCamp. The Legislature does not set the size of the automobiles the state shall buy to travel around. So why should the Legislature try and set