

January 29, 1982

LB 69

SENATOR MARSH: I think we had better have a Call of the House so that we get enough people here to maneuver. Senator Von Minden, did you want to put this into constitutional form?

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol, for what purpose?

SENATOR NICHOL: I don't think I can talk on it.

SENATOR CLARK: Not yet. Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the first amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: The first amendment is adopted. Senator Marsh, on the second amendment.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I have talked with several of you in the body but I have not had an opportunity to get to each of you. I am offering this amendment which speaks to the necessity for a child care center transporting children to make use of the seat belts which are installed in the vehicle. As you know, there was a child killed in Omaha last fall being transported by a day care center. There were seat belts available. They were not in use. The car door wedge had been removed. You have read the reports. I would like to quote from several communications and this one is from Dr. Gillespie who says, "Trauma is the leading cause of death in children. Moreover the nature of injury in a child unrestrained in an automobile is frequently an abdominal injury or a head injury. Contrarywise removal of the injured spleen leaves the child susceptible to overwhelming infection even if they survive the crash." Or from another Omaha mother, "Please try to gain legislative action re the standards for day care centers and requirements for seat belt use if children must be transported." Julie Broadstone was killed because there were no standards. I had a letter of request from the parents of Julie Broadstone and I made a moral commitment to them that I would offer this amendment on the floor of the Legislature. You do as you choose. Her parents would feel that the passage of LB 69 with this amendment would be a fitting memorial to the child who was killed, that perhaps her death would not be in vain. I offer this amendment to the members of the Legislature. One of the parents said, "An unnecessary tragedy has made many Nebraskans realize just how important your proposal was and how vital it would have been to the life of five year old Julie Broadstone had you been successful last year." I had a letter from the physician who was the family pediatrician

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