

March 11, 1982

LB 824

that claim that the wear and tear on the highway does not exist. There was a witness who came on behalf of the bill, on behalf of Senator Labeledz, and testified on the damage to the highways and even that witness, the witness on behalf of the bill, acknowledged that there was serious damage to the highways by studded tires. Sure, salt and gravel and heavy trucks damage the highways, too, but it is absolutely clear there is no contradictory evidence that studded tires don't also do great damage. If you are going to have studded tires, one of two things are going to happen. Either you are going to take money away from the highway funds to repair roads, in which case some gravel roads aren't going to be asphalted and some paved roads are not going to have the chuckholes filled, and I ask you to consider the safety effects of those omissions. How much safety is gained by changing a gravel road to a paved road? I think it is a lot of additional safety, more additional safety than allowing studded tires on the road I believe.

SENATOR CLARK: You have one minute left.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And if you don't siphon away funds from existing road projects and from the improvement of roads, then the other effect has to be that you increase the gas taxes significantly for everyone, and if you do that, then you are getting to the situation that Senator Newell described where you are charging everybody, everybody in the state for those who are doing damage, for that small percentage that is doing damage with the studded tires. I guess that is as far as I can go on my time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to give Senator Koch a little personal privilege here.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Over here under the North balcony, I am proud to introduce to you my youngest son, Scott, who is the Assistant Principal at Millard North High School, and the reason he is here today is he is also going to officiate at the state tournament. So, Scott, why don't you stand up and be recognized.

SENATOR CLARK: Welcome to the Unicameral. I also have an announcement to make. There will be a chili feed this noon at 1320 J put on by the freshman Senators, I think, but I heard they call them sophomores. It will be at noon for all Senators. The question before the House is shall the bill be put on General File notwithstanding the vote of the committee which will take 30 votes. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

8713