

April 8, 1982

LB 759

to be, you bet, we have got to save lives. Now I submit to you that a faulty vehicle is just as dangerous as some that's had a few too many to drink. When you add a drinker with...a person with a faulty vehicle, you have almost doubled your problems. So I am saying, let's give this law one more year. Let the Legislature seriously look at the possibility of a law that can stand the test and accomplish the objectives we intend. If our Motor Vehicle Safety Law was not properly enforced, then we know where to go to find the answer. It is not those men who served as inspectors. You read their letters, they are serious, and I am serious. My last question then, do you really want to save lives totally, or do you want to pick an emotion that by poll today shows is very popular? Or do you want to take one further step and say, yes, we are going to do everything we can in terms of highway safety to assure that we are going to minimize fatalities to the greatest degree we can, except where you get in the position where you have poor drivers? I ask for the suspension of the rule for the adoption of this amendment on LB 759.

SENATOR NICHOL: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, I think we are plowing the same field for the second time this afternoon. It seems to me that the best thing to do is as we said awhile ago that we didn't want to suspend the rules to deal with this issue with this bill and I believe we're going to get into a long drawn out debate over the merits or demerits of the inspection program and you all know how I feel about it. I think if you looked at the handout that I have sent around that should be laying on your desk, you can use nice emotional words as Senator Koch did about how it is going to cause all the junkers to be out there and it is going to save a lot of lives and all this sort of thing. There is not a bit of statistics to back any of that up. He talked about DWI, there are some statistics to indicate that DWI is a problem. If you look at the back page of the handout I showed to you, you will notice on the underlined portions that there is no deductible impact on highway safety. This is a nationwide study. Senator Koch handed out a couple of letters. These people are pleading to keep the program and it was very, very interesting until you got to the back and you noticed that they were themselves motor vehicle inspectors. Well, I expect if my job was about ready to be ended, I would be pleading to keep the program too. I think it is pretty obvious where those people are coming from. I don't think they are pleading from safety viewpoints

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