

On the other hand, those that are experts in this field, optometrists, have come to me and said that this type of lens is a very narrowing vision impact, that you can see terrifically straight ahead but you cannot see to the sides and that there is going to be times when, obviously, as you are driving you need to have that peripheral vision and that you may, in fact, by allowing this type of driving license to be utilized, there may be accidents down the road, people hurt and concern is being expressed to that degree. So I have struggled a bit with the issue, trying to figure out what the best solution is. I think Senator Crosby raised a good point, that the training I think would be helpful and I think at least we ought to have some training requirements before you go forward in allowing these individuals to drive. But I, for one, until those training requirements are adopted, feel I cannot support the bill because of the concerns that have been expressed to me by individuals I respect and trust. Their judgment indicates to me that there are sufficient medical reasons to not advance the bill without proper safeguards in place and, at this point, I'm not sure that they are there. And so I raise those concerns. I anticipate the bills advancement. I know there is a lot of concern and support for it, but in my good judgment and in my conscience I don't feel I can vote for it at this time. But, Senator Robak, I understand you'll be working with Senator Crosby on amendments and perhaps those will ease my concern and so I hope that you will seriously look at that. I think that would be helpful.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch, there are a number of lights on. I think I will not recognize it at this point, but thank you. I appreciate that. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I, too, would like to support this bill and am certainly sympathetic to those people who have not been able to drive over the past couple of years on our roads. I would like to echo what Senator Wesely said, that this is a difficult bill and if you have looked over the information that Senator Robak has given us, you will see that a number of states around us, directly surrounding us do allow the bioptic licensing and there are several states around us that don't. And it would be possible if we did not have this legislation that a Nebraskan could go to another state