

problems, that there was no difficulty that had been demonstrated. Merely by a...merely by a new interpretation by a division head in the Department of Motor Vehicles, we had these people have their lifestyles altered considerably. So we come in with legislation, I think Senator Johanns also was involved in this particular piece of legislation. We did get involved. We had legislation that did, in fact, pass a couple of years ago, was vetoed as legislation that sometimes passes after we've gone home does get vetoed, and then we came back last year and we had a variety of approaches. This is an approach Senator Robak brought in. I brought in a different approach that would have dealt with this waiver procedure in statutes and this is the bill that is here today. It's not that big a deal. As I understand it, we are not putting unsafe people onto the highways. What we're doing is putting, allowing people that have been able to drive, have been able to meet these vision requirements through previous interpretation of the statutes to continue their lifestyle as they have in the past. I can recall a few years ago getting somewhat upset when it looked like what we were doing was altering the statutes to put new people out on the road that hadn't been able to meet the standards before. My understanding is this doesn't do that. This is a bill that allows those people who were driving prior to this new interpretation of the statutes the right to continue to do that, and I think that is the fair, just thing to do. Too often in here I think the power of government shifts away from those of us that make the laws to those who interpret the laws. I'm speaking with a little more emotion than I might otherwise because this morning I found out that the same department, this Department of Motor Vehicles is doing the same sort of thing in another area that affects the way people do their jobs and carry things out. I think it is perhaps a department of state government that interprets its ability to interpret rules and regulations somewhat broader than they should, that they tend to override legislative intent more often than they should and I think that not only is this is a good bill for the purpose of affecting those people who drive using the use of bioptic lenses, it's also a good bill to...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...establish the fact that the Legislature is the body of state government that is to be making laws and not the Department of Motor Vehicles.