

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Lynch. Question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 9 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate does not cease. Continuing the voting (sic) order, Senator Beyer, please, discussion on the advancement of the bill, followed by Senators Landis, Schimek and Haberman.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I guess I have heard this same bill for several years on the various committees and Senator Withem did give a scenario as to how this come about. This did come about through the Department of Motor Vehicles several years ago when they made that determination, but if you go and look at the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles, their vision standards survey that was handed out to you, it will tell you what states say yes and the testimony seems to be that the majority of the states are saying yes to it. But if you look down to the restrictions that are given by the yeses and also the fact that they only have one or two drivers, it's pretty hard to state any kind of an example of what has went on. The one state, Maine, has got 13 users and three of them have had fatal accidents, so it brought about a moratorium which was just removed. And it says presently only two bioptic users are licensed. So, you know, there is not a whole lot of testimon...or facts, I guess, one way or another as to whether they are safe or aren't safe. The thing that does concern me and I guess it is a concern with everybody, if you don't wear your glasses and you're supposed to while you drive or if they don't wear the bioptic lenses when they drive, just how safe are they? I think Senator Landis made a good point when he said maybe we should restrict it to nighttime (sic) driving and maybe he's got that coming up with some of his discussion, but I still remain opposed to it and will vote no on it, so thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I know that the patience of the body is running out on this issue and I'll just take a brief amount of time. There were a couple of things said in defense of the bill that I wanted to respond to because I'm not sure that they accurately characterized what is