

continues to have in it the educational component which is I believe a very significant part of the bill. So with that, I would urge the adoption of the committee amendments. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Labeledz. Thank you. Senator Crosby, would you care to discuss the amendments?

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members. Yes, I guess since the rest of you who originated it and whose bill it is are supporting the amendments, I will support the amendments, but I am really saddened that they lowered the age to five years old. I cannot understand why it is that people do not want to protect their children. I am one of these people that I cannot drive down the street without my seat belt on, and I make everybody in my car put their seat belts on. If they don't want that, then they can just get out and walk because I am not going to drive with people sitting there not protected. The baby seats and so on have proven so effective from the very beginning and this does bother me that we cannot educate the public to protect their children. Little ones over five years old need that protection, too, and when I see people going around with their little ones in the back of a pickup, I shudder and faint because I have seen and read about accidents. You know that they get thrown out, even adults get thrown out of the back of a pickup, and I am sure if you had worked in an emergency room or with safety...in a safety capacity as a policeman or someone...anyone who goes to the accident scenes, they can tell you how much difference the seat belts and the restraints make. And little children cannot protect themselves. So, as I say, as long as Senator Ashford and Senator Beck are going to support this amendment, I will, too, but I still feel that one way or another we must educate people to, even though there is no law, to make their children put on the seat belts. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schellpeper, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members. I just want to make a couple of comments for Senator Crosby. We debated this bill in the Transportation Committee and we held it there for awhile. There wasn't enough votes to move it. It was finally my motion that we lower it to five and then it moved out, Senator Crosby. And so rather than lose everything, we thought that five is better than nothing, so that is why we have it at five, and I think it is, like you say, it isn't