

support Senator Lindsay's amendment to LB 799. The...and just to clarify a little bit, I think, Senator Beyer's opening statement because I was one of the individuals who discussed this bill on General File and as well as Senator Lindsay and Senator Wesely because 799 is a radical change from a proposal that was passed, the implied consent issue that we dealt with just last year, and Senator Wesely and I, along with others, worked extremely hard on that. What 799 does is totally restructure all of that and the single purpose for doing that, the single purpose for doing that because if you talked to Fred Zwonechek, he will tell you that the change in the law is working extremely well and Senator Wesely will attest to that as well. But the single purpose for changing the law that we currently have in place is what Senator Beyer continues to reference is approximately half a million dollars in federal funds that are required to be used and solely used for alcohol and drug education. Now that is a very fine purpose, ladies and gentlemen, and I am one of the proponents of that here on the floor and when we deal with the budget year in and year out, but the fact of the matter is, is we have a system that currently is working. It does not allow for the automatic revocation or in other words, guilty until proven innocent, which is what this bill becomes. It says you're guilty until you're proven innocent, not the other way around which tends to be the way we've always treated any other crime. And because we don't have an automatic revocation provision in our law, we are not eligible for these funds. Now, is there any guarantee that the funds are going to come down? I don't know. They're there right now and I...you know, the more funds that are available for this type of a purpose, the better, but at what cost to us as a state? I mean, what we are doing here is we are abdicating our legislative authority to the federal government in this case, an agency of the government, the Department of Motor Vehicles, who says that in order to be eligible for these types of funds you have to have these certain laws in place. Now that happens from time to time, but in no case has it ever been put into place, has Department of Transportation ever said or any other agency that I can think of that you have to have a guilty until proven innocent law put in place in order to get funds. And at that point in time, ladies and gentlemen, those dollars that flow from the states to the federal government I think become too expensive to accept and Senator Beyer thinks otherwise and that's really all that this boils down to. What price are you willing to pay, how far are you willing to bastardize your system in order to accept \$500,000 in federal