

motion. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Haberman. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. President, members, Senator Kristensen, question.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Kristensen, would you respond, please?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Those students who get a school permit at the age of 14, would they be required to take this course before given that school permit?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Not before they get it, but they have to within a year after getting it, complete the course.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Okay. The only other point I would like to make is it seems that we are discussing the amendments rather than the bill. The bill itself states that you can get that driver's ed course from a community college, a private provider or the public schools and we're anticipating killing this on what the amendments may do. I oppose killing it right now. I think that we should support it and then discuss the amendments, one amendment at a time. But if we look at what this bill does, actually those school districts that offer driver's ed, most require the parents to participate in the cost of that. And so, Senator Bernard-Stevens, I don't see that it really takes money away from, you know, the core curriculum from schools usually. It is offered in a summer program or it is offered over the lunch hour and there is most of the time a fee charged to the students so it's not coming out of that budget that pays, but...so, therefore, I support Senator Kristensen's bill at this point. I would have some reservations about some of the amendments but let's just take them one amendment at a time and not kill this bill because of what we anticipate the amendments might do. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Horgan.

SENATOR HORGAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I, too, would rise in opposition to indefinitely postponing the bill. I think it's too important of an issue and too significant of an issue for Nebraska and for young people and for the highway