

safety and the road safety of all Nebraskans for us to postpone it. I think the issues in the bill are important enough that we ought to discuss it. I think when you look at the number of young people age 15 to 24 when they represent 18 percent of our driver's, yet they also represent 33 percent of the accidents in the State of Nebraska and 40 percent of the alcohol related accidents and 40 percent of all citations given in the state, we've got a problem out there and we ought to recognize that problem. We ought to try and do something about it. What LB 336 does is it recognizes the importance of driver's education and what happens when students are afforded the opportunity to take driver's education courses. Their accident rates go down, their ticket rates go down, their use of alcohol in driving motor vehicles go down. Time on task, as Senator Robinson likes to say, is an important element in education. Time on task of knowing how to drive an automobile, a 2,000 pound vehicle storming down the highway at 65 miles an hour, I think somebody ought to maybe take a course and learn a little bit about how to operate that thing before they get out on the highway and start pointing it at people. I think it's a bad decision to indefinitely postpone debating the importance of this bill, the impact it has on our citizens, and I think school districts have proven that they are not making a very wise decision in eliminating driver's education programs simply based on the cost factor and that we're putting the burden here, we have an opportunity to put the burden here upon the people who are going to use the automobiles and that's probably the way it ought to be. It's a fee for use type of thing. If you're 16 years old and you want to drive an automobile, you have to pay to take a course to know how to do it. It seems to be pretty basic and pretty simple and I think we ought to move on and debate the merits of the bill and I would intend to support the bill. Thank you.

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

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, I rise to support Senator Bernard-Stevens' motion to indefinitely postpone LB 336, particularly in its present form. I think Senator Kristensen and the Transportation Committee have the right problem but I think they have the wrong solution. I remember last year when I talked about the possible effects of a driver's education course and now in my personal case it would fail with the number of accidents I had had after I had taken it, but nevertheless, that's beside the point. You know I have a number of amendments