

capable to drive. I think that's up to the parents to make that decision, but we have many, many single parents and four miles is just too far, particularly when they have extra school activities or band early in the morning and that's simply what I'm asking. I know that I'm opening the door to a certain extent, but I don't believe that the...and it probably would be abused to some extent, you know, what is the most direct route? But that is what it would do and it's just simply the hardship that, again, another one placed on the parents when their students want to take extra activities or have to stay over and you can't car pool. And that is simply what it would do.

SENATOR CONWAY PRESIDING

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Mr. President, members, Senator Nelson, question, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Pardon?

SENATOR BOHLKE: I'll probably have a question for you. I understand what you're saying and your intent with the situation in Grand Island, but, in effect, what the bill would do then is put more 14-year-olds on the street and that's the category that we've said would have a...if Senator Kristensen's bill is passed, that's the one category who would not have the driver's ed program for a number of months while they would be driving and so my concerns would be while his bill, as we're trying to make the streets safer, and his bill would either make you have driver's ed or wait till you're 17. What this would do would be to allow more 14-year-olds and, as I understand it, a large portion of them for a number of months would not be required to have had the driver's ed so I see the two in contradiction and I probably, for that reason, would have a problem supporting it.

SENATOR NELSON: Your little Hastings people won't like that, Ardyce. You're probably correct though you know to get a learner's permit that you have to drive under the supervision, I think it's almost a year with someone that is licensed so I do see a little conflict. In one area we're trying to use the learner's permit to a greater extent and in the other area we're not and...but I also know it's certainly a hardship for those living in the towns the size of Hastings and Grand Island. I think Hastings school is also on the opposite side of town.