

amendments, as it relates to how we deal with a class of crime. And that's really what we're talking about. It is very politically expedient, as a matter of fact it's damn popular, to put it in my vernacular, to talk about being tough on drunk driving. As a matter of fact folks have run in the past, campaigned on it, and they will run in the future and campaign on it as an issue that we need to take into consideration, we need to crack down on those individuals, we need to get drunks off the street. You see it all the time. Open up the World-Herald on any given month and you'll find it at some point in time throughout there there will be a story on how we should deal with drunk driving in a more efficient manner. Ladies and gentlemen, the matter...the fact is, the facts are that we're dealing with drunk driving in a very responsible way in Nebraska. The statistics show that. Statistics do not show that drunk driving is on the increase. As a matter of fact, it is on the declining side of the equation. Drunk driving has become a critical issue as it relates to the whole alcohol industry, to the point where...excuse me, I have a cold, to the point where the industry itself has taken a position to support some of these same kinds of measures, at least portions of the industry, that are in LB 291 as amended. I would be less than honest if I said that wasn't the case. It is true, they have banded together to make sure that there are stiff penalties, such as the fourth offense that I put in place. They're willing to address that. They're willing to address it when they talk about designated drivers. They're willing to recognize that there is a problem out there, but they are working on it. We have been working on it. Statistics show that what we have in place has worked, that what we are about to put in place doesn't do anything to improve the situation. We don't deal at all with education, we don't deal at all with prevention, we don't deal at all with those individuals who are chronic, in terms of treatment process. The provision that I offer here in terms of fourth offense says, look, I mean...and I would argue with Senator Kristensen's statement that it would be very difficult, I don't think so, not for somebody who is a chronic alcoholic to get fourth offense within a five year period is not at all unlikely. And if that individual were to get a second and a third, that five year time frame does not stop, it's not locked in stone, it continues to flow and goes beyond that first offense. Look at what the penalties are that you're putting into place. You think that it's a great provision now in terms of well we passed a tough drunk driving law, and I can put that in my campaign brochure, and I can go out and tell the folks