

ten years, that you've changed your behavior, we're willing to overlook that. The five year period of time, a lot of these people are still on probation if it's their third offense or so, because they have a long period of probation. I know I think it's too short, and I still would oppose the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Schimek, did you wish to address this amendment?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: No.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, to go on a little bit with...Senator Hall says that our system is working. But if our system works, why do we have such a backlog? Why do we let people drive, because they continually drive while they wait for their court appearance. Simplest way out of all of this would be just to...to avoid this penalty would just not drink and drive. We're not trying to stop drinking. What we're trying to stop is the combination of the drinking and driving at the time. As Senator Kristensen said, all the statistics show in...this was our interim study, that shows from all the states what has happened. After the enactment of the ALR in Alaska the alcohol related fatalities dropped from 76 percent to 42 percent with an increase in traffic, in all of these cases. Arizona, the fatalities decreased by 4.6 percent. Colorado estimates a 5 percent drop in just the alcohol related crashes. Illinois, a 7 percent increase in alcohol related fatalities. State of Iowa, 1981 they recorded 276 fatalities through alcohol related incidents. After the ALR took effect, on July 1, 1982, the alcohol related fatalities dropped to 188, and they've been continually showing a decline. So something must be working in these states that have it, irregardless of what Senator Hall says, right now our system is working. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Beyer. Senator Hall, you're next.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Again, I rise in support of the amendment. The issue of where are we at in the present law, at one of the meetings that was held, I think, by the Transportation Committee in Omaha in particular, there was testimony by the Douglas County Attorney's Office to the fact that they have a 97 percent conviction rate, 97 percent.