

February 4, 1992 LB 291

Senator Hall too. I don't think they are working. When I come to work every morning I come down South Street in Lincoln. I come past 31st and South and every morning I see a little marker for Donald Overton. Donald Overton was killed by a drunk driver on September 9, 1990. He was born on April 9, 1963, so you can see how young he was. He was sitting in a car and this man ran into him and it killed him. His parents and some other people who are members of Mothers Against Drunk Driving put up this little marker for him and they are planting trees as a memorial grove. They are beginning a grove there near the Rock Island Trail, the old Rock Island Railroad ran through there. If you can talk to one of those mothers or fathers or brothers and not think that we've got to do something about the way drivers are taken off the road and kept off the road when they have a drunk or an alcohol problem and vote against this bill, I don't see how you can be against anything that we at least try to make it better. If people want to drink themselves to oblivion at home or wherever, that's their given right I guess, but they do not have the right to go out and drive that car. I'm at the point where I'd like to have some kind of law that would make it mandatory that you have to show that you have a valid driver's license before you can buy a car. Now I know that the automobile industry would be out in about five minutes if we introduced something like that, but there is some way or another we've got to keep these people out of the cars. The other thing that I've looked at is if you let someone use your car that you know are suspended you should be liable and probably there are some parts of the law that you are liable but if someone goes out and kills somebody in that car it seems like you ought to take some responsibility too. So as I say, as I come along there every morning I think about Donald Overton and other people who have been killed by drunk drivers. A mother who was out here at Sunset Boulevard and O Street at noon, broad daylight, and a drunk driver comes along and kills her. Her husband stopped to see what the accident was and there is his wife. How can you sit here and not think about those people? You have to put this kind of thing on an emotional basis I think because it's another life issue. We're talking about people's lives when we allow people to get into a car and drive who are not fit to drive. These young people in particular, and I am going to pass out one of these folders to you, none of them had a living will I'm sure. They weren't worrying about being on life support systems. All they were thinking about was going to a basketball game, seeing their friends...

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