

I guess, at best and unconscionable at worst when individuals get behind the wheel of an automobile after they've had too much to drink. And the cases that Senator Crosby talked about where individuals have died saying that this has to be put on an emotional level, I have personal experiences with that. Two of my brothers were darned near killed by a drunk driver at four o'clock in the afternoon. The doctor said that the only reason they lived was because the fact that they both happened to be in good physical condition and they were driving an older car that had a little more room to give than a newer one would have. Four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the individuals in the other car was killed, a cousin killed a cousin. They were both far in excess of the legal limit with regard to blood alcohol content. Jeff and Jim were lucky. Jim was an NCAA All American two months earlier in cross country. He has undergone three subsequent surgeries on the same leg. Still can outrun me, which is no great feat, but the fact of the matter is he is alive and there is a big difference between that and those individuals that Senator Crosby mentioned. There is nothing we can do to bring those back and nothing in LB 291, as it would be amended with the committee amendments or as it was introduced, does anything to address the real issue here. None of it addresses the issue of the problem with alcohol and driving. Every single period, every single "t", every single paragraph deals with issues after the fact, deals with issues after the fact when individuals have been stopped and picked up. The whole issue of preventing drunk driving is education. It is providing treatment and spending money on that and the key to it, the key to it is enforcement. I don't care how tough your law is, if you don't enforce it, if you do not enforce it, you can, like I said yesterday, put the death penalty in place for drunk driving and you still won't have a penalty that does anything to address the issue. The truth of the matter is is that people will always, someone, some idiot, as Senator Kristensen said, will always get behind the wheel after they have had too much to drink. This does nothing, this whole proposal does nothing to stop that and that's the sham behind proposals like this is that they don't address the problem. Folks who stand up and talk in support of these kinds of measures, but when we see bills to increase funding for education, prevention and treatment of alcohol, they tend to vote on the other side of the issue. They tend to vote red because that's...we can't afford to spend money there. It's much easier to make stiffer laws and put more people behind bars, which we can't afford to have behind bars the way it is,