

over in Iowa quite a little, and there the use of seat belts is way up. It doesn't cost us anything to implement this bill because the manufacturers put these seat belts in these cars, and so I just think it is good for us to pass this bill. Seat belts come with the vehicle. The manufacturers are required to have seat belts in these cars. It has been said that we can probably save 40 lives a year by passing this law. I believe it could be up to 50 lives. I remember back in '85 when we were debating it, '85 or '86, I think it was 40 lives then, and I believe it could be a little more now. Also we could save a lot of injuries. Also, Senator Haberman, we could save millions of dollars of our hard-earned tax dollars, and the reason for this is that 18 percent or approximately 18 percent of Nebraska drivers don't have insurance, and I know we passed a bill saying that everybody is required to have liability insurance, but some of them don't have. And this is because after they get their license, why then they cancel their insurance or their insurance runs out and they don't renew it. I know they should have and we ought to enforce that law a little bit more, and some of those that do have insurance don't have enough insurance. Sometimes the breadwinner is maimed for life, or he or she is killed, don't have enough insurance, or probably don't even have insurance, and so our social programs take over costing us millions of dollars a year. I don't know what that figure is exactly, but some of the figures that I have heard is that could be 25 to 30 million dollars a year. I want to tell you a story about my wife and I, years ago we used to wear seat belts, and then we got out of the habit. But then when we passed the law, well, we started wearing them again, and I think this is real good. And my wife and I are still very faithful in wearing our seat belts, even if we just go downtown because a lot of the accidents happen real close to home. Also, if we don't pass some type of seat belt law, we are going to lose some federal funds, lose federal funds anyway to build our much-needed roads and rebuild our interstate system and rebuild some of our poor bridges, condemned bridges, in fact. We would have to use these federal funds to educate the people to use seat belts. So I am going to support this bill and hope that the majority of the body here supports this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Cudaback. Senator Beyer.

SENATOR BEYER: Well, Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I support the use of seat belts. Having been in the trucking industry, our