

doesn't exist anymore. Am I exempt because I don't meet that standard or am I subject to having that system repaired at my expense in order to qualify to meet the provisions under LB 958? And I don't...I'm...Senator Horgan, I want to get this in the record because I think it's an issue that could come up in future and many of us know that those systems have been altered. There are systems that only have the lap belts, the older, the farther back you go. There are systems that have the lap and the shoulder that are separate pieces. There are systems that have a combination lap and shoulder and there are systems that are automatic now in the newer models. My question to you is, if a system has been altered, how does that affect the guilt or innocence, I guess, or the giving of a ticket for purposes of this provision that 958 would put into law? Would I now be guilty because I do not meet the manufacturer's safety standards for the motor vehicle of that model year and it's a legitimate question I want to get into the record. I'm not going to harass the bill. I just want it in the record what your understanding of this is.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Horgan.

SENATOR HORGAN: Senator Hall, as I understand it, we made some phone calls after you asked me that question and the answer that came back was yes, indeed, to be in compliance and to be in total compliance you would have to go out and have a shoulder belt strap installed in your car because it is illegal to tamper with the car as it is manufactured and so for someone to cut the belts out and then to use that as a defense for not wearing the belt would not be an acceptable defense if you were to be ticketed.

SENATOR HALL: Okay. Now if you'd go back, and I appreciate that answer. Now if you would go back to the, even though the language of the definition says a system utilizing a lap belt, a shoulder belt or any combination of belts, because it says a system and because it relates back to the motor vehicle safety standards and the model year, the safety standards for the passenger restraint systems applicable for the motor vehicle's model year, that would mean that I would...I'm subject to go out and have that repaired. That's correct?

SENATOR HORGAN: That's correct, yes.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Horgan.