

to have, but police chases are done for the benefit of society as a whole. They're not done for the benefit of a police department. They're not done for the benefit of an individual within that society. They are done for the benefit of society to protect society from the person who is fleeing, and because of that, the cost that's associated with that ought to be borne by society as a whole. We ought not put the cost of that police chase onto someone who was created...who has become a quadriplegic as a result of that police chase. We ought not say you have to...you have to pay for the cost of this police chase because society doesn't want to.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR LINDSAY: When we choose to engage in police chases, we ought to have society as a whole who is benefiting be the ones that pay for the cost of that. I would urge that we sup...that we support the committee's action and defeat the motion to place the bill on General File.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Lindsay. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I have a confession to make. When we had these hearings, there were two of them actually, Senator Witek's bill and Senator Maurstad's bill. And when I went into the committee hearing I was planning to vote the bills out of committee. And I made the mistake of listening to the testimony and that always sometimes confuses you when you're trying to make a decision on how to vote for the bill. But, in listening to the testimony, I realized that these bills weren't quite what they were proposed to be. Now the...I thought when we were going to vote on the police pursuit bills that we would be changing police policy when it comes to the pursuit of criminals. And, with that in mind, I was intending to vote the bills out of committee because I don't think anyone supports individuals that commit acts against society and then can flee and avoid arrest. What I discovered in the course of the hearing, under questioning, was that the police policy, the police pursuit policies of the...at least for the City of Omaha, were not going to change as a result of the passage of the bill, and that disturbed me because I felt that what I was trying to do was to make the streets of Omaha a little safer when it came to how we handled criminals. So I started to look at the bill then and realized that the bill did have its share of problems and it didn't do what I thought it was going to do, and that is