

and I've occasionally been inconvenienced myself when I've had to go back and get my proof of insurance. The bill itself that Senator Coordsen has brought to us, LB 37, is a very good bill. It makes it a crime to drive without insurance in this state. But that bill is going to be hidden in the law books, drivers are not going to carry copies of the Nebraska statutes with them. This amendment should be defeated. It is really a welfare bill for the forgetful, for the small minority that might be inconvenienced somewhat. But we have built a system that works well, that impresses annually upon each owner of a vehicle that he has to have insurance and it would be poor public policy to change this policy at this time. I would oppose the amendment but support the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, just briefly. I, too, would oppose the amendment. As I've been listening to the discussion I recall the years and years and years in which legislation was introduced for compulsory insurance and the stories that would be told time after time of people who had been irreparable harmed by accidents from vehicles that did not carry insurance. We know it still happens, but the remarkable reduction in those kinds of stories since the enactment of the current law has been remarkable and I think, as others have said, it would be a very big step backward not to continue the process. I hope you would vote no on the amendment. As far as the burden, if you're carrying your registration in the vehicle as you're supposed to, if you're carrying your certificate for insurance, as you're supposed to, it doesn't take any more effort to take two pieces of paper out of the...the...wherever you carry your registration than it does one and the option, of course, that you pay extra for forgetting to take your registration when you get there. But I certainly would see no reason for a change.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Schmitt.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, just briefly. I wasn't sure I was going to talk on this, but I decided I would. I support the proof of insurance. I think we should tighten that down more and I think LB 37 is going to do this. However, with Senator Coordsen's amendment, if I understand this correctly, all this is going to do is not require you to carry this piece of paper to the courthouse. You still have to have