

addressed clearly when we debated the amendment on a consent calendar bill that was adopted. I'm sure Senator Kristensen explained it. It was something that I guess Senator Will did not address at that time, but chose to in the form of this amendment and as Senator Kristensen said, what goes around comes around in terms of these amendments that we sometimes offer in the place of others. But here's an article that was in the World-Herald just Wednesday, March 29, 1995 and it speaks to the long-haul hazards with regard to safety. It says each year accidents involving heavy commercial trucks claim nearly 5,000 lives nationally with most victims the occupants of smaller vehicles and about 50 in Nebraska. Nebraska led the nation in 1993 in the percentage of fatal accidents that involved trucks. Trucks were involved in 16.7 percent of fatal accidents in the state, more than double the national average of 8 percent. Iowa ranked third nationally with 13.1. Again, the National Transportation Safety Board suggests that driver fatigue may be the number one cause of fatal truck accidents. While heavy trucks are involved in 3 percent of the total traffic accidents in Nebraska every year, they're involved in more than 16 percent of the fatal accidents. Safety officials said that nationally tired truckers are producing disastrous consequences on the roads almost daily. The growing list of victims created by such accidents in the Safety Board study that suggested that driver fatigue may contribute to more than half of all trucking accidents produced in ever louder call for reform of service rules. So in other words, out there nationally what is going on is a look at reducing the number of hours that an individual can be allowed to operate when in fact, here with this proposal what we are doing is expanding those hours that would be allowed within the State of Nebraska. I think it's a policy question that needs to be addressed and I offer the amendment. Would first ask that we return the bill to Select File for that purpose. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: You've heard the closing. The question is, shall LB 461E be returned to Select File for consideration of a specific amendment? All in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 4 ayes, 29 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The bill is not returned. Anything further on the bill?