

you leave a few minutes earlier, or you're a minute or two late? I don't think that increasing those two-lane roads, for the danger that you have, is worth the chance that we're going to take and I think we're better off setting it at 60. The public will accept that. That's an increase from where we're at today. People are going to set that 60 right on the...it's right in the center of their speedometer anyway and I think that the public will accept that,...

SENATOR WILL: Time.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...particularly given the safety factors. Thank you. SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Elmer on the motion to reconsider.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Senator Will. I'd support the motion to reconsider for several reasons. As Senator Wickersham has told us, prior to 1974 we had speed limits on our two-lane highways of 65 miles an hour. Let's look at what's happened to our design standards, to the quality of our automobiles, to the social things that we have done in this state to make driving safer so that returning to the 65 miles an hour that we had previously, obviously, from a conservative Nebraska Legislature in the past thought that 65 was safe and was a fair speed to set. I have not heard too many people say that our body's getting more conservative than it was 25 years ago. I think that we could follow their lead. Look at the...look at what's been done with most of the bridges in our state. They've been widened, the guardrail systems have been improved, the driving surfaces have been widened, the shoulders have been widened. The safety of our automobiles, we require people to wear seat belts, they're, the automobiles, are now being built to withstand crashes, to withstand those types of things. They're much safer. Look at what's been done in the way of driver education. Twenty-five years ago people weren't a bit concerned about going to the Elks Club or the Eagles Club, having a few drinks and driving home. Today they no longer do that because of our stiff DWI laws and the designated drivers. We don't have the situations out there that have made these...make the two-lane the roads, as Senator Kristensen would characterize, as dangerous. They're better than they were when it was 65 before. I really believe that allowing the Department of Roads to start at 65 and come down is not a bad policy and I'd urge you to support the reconsideration and then adopt the amendment. Thank