

am opposing both of the amendments from Senator Maurstad and Senator Chambers. I really feel, if we are increasing the speed, that we need to also increase the fines. I would support the committee amendment to increase the fines for...as on the interstate for all of the roads. We don't seem to be talking about that the relationship between speed and accidents, and there definitely is. One of the statistics said that after 1987, when we changed it from 55 to 65, in the first four years, on interstate highways, 30 percent increase in accidents, in Nebraska nearly 18 percent increase with the speeds. And accidents do cost. One of the estimates were that when the speed limit remained at 55 miles an hour it reduced the cost of accidents from 122 to \$240 million per year, the direct cost of motor vehicle accidents. So I feel that we should have a uniform fine rate, but that if we're going to increase speed we need to increase fines. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Any further discussion on the Maurstad amendment? Seeing none, Senator Maurstad, to close.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. I would...the only comment I would make is I disagree with my friend from Bradshaw in that the amendment that's before you does increase the fines, from the current statute, on all roads for all speed limits, or for all penalties going over the speed limit, except for 1 to 5 miles per hour over the speed limit. Other than that, there is increased fines for all other categories on all of the roads. And so I think this is consistent with the sentiment that when we increase the speed limit we also need to increase the penalties associated with that. So, with that, I would just ask for the adoption of the amendment to Senator Chambers' amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. The question before the body is the adoption of the Maurstad amendment to the Chambers amendment to LB 901. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, Madam President, on the adoption of Senator Maurstad's amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Maurstad amendme.it is adopted. We return to a discussion of the Chambers amendment. Is there any further