

CLERK: No committee amendments.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schrock to open on the bill.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this is a bill that is kind of a rewrite of what Senator Haberman had two years ago which got bogged down and never had time to be passed. It is, I think, a noncontroversial bill. It regulates floater spreaders in a way that I think is appropriate to their function. Right now, floater spreaders are required to abide by the state law on axle weights, but they're rather large vehicles with large pneumatic tires that apply very little pressure to the road, so they don't damage our roads nearly as much as maybe trucks might. This bill does limit them to 30 miles per hour. It says they cannot travel on interstates, and I have pictures here of a couple of them if anybody is interested in seeing them if you're not familiar with them. They're a very familiar sight in rural Nebraska during planting season because they're used mainly for off-road purposes, but they do have to travel to and from their place of business to the farmer's field, but they're designed to spread fertilizer, either dry or liquid, and herbicides, without compacting the soil because of their large, low-inflation tires. I'll not take any more time, but if you have any questions or would like to see a picture of one of these vehicles, fine. But under the present state law, it does cause problems for our agriculture...our agricultural businessmen in this...in the state.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Mr. Clerk, I understand you have an amendment.

CLERK: Senator Schellpeper would move to amend. (See AM3747 found on page 1197 in the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Mr. Speaker and members, yes. This amendment is sort of like Senator Kristensen's amendment. This amendment came from the Nebraska custom harvesters and it allows for an overhang of a combine when they transport them across the state. I passed out a diagram. You can see that they have to be able to have the overhang of the large combines now to hang over the back end of the unloading augur, and then the...where the chaff comes out. And the reason they have to have it is