

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

February 24, 1999 LB 356

and the seat belts, but maybe inadequate roads. And maybe where we need to put our money, and I know this, we're kind of getting the hammer from the federal government as far as roads is concerned, but, you know, how far do we go with action like...like this as far as trying to regulate what people do? And that's kind of where I'm bothered by, that you give this much more power, I guess, you know, and where do we stop with it? So I'm kind of up in the air on this issue and I'd like to give the rest of my time to Senator Chambers, if he desires.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, in that accident in Blair, I'm surprised that Senator Byars, who wants to make so much of it, where the car ran head on into the pickup truck, the State Patrol's investigation, Senator Byars, said that both cars drifted out of their lane, both vehicles. You didn't say anything about that. You want to make it a matter of these young people dying because they didn't wear a seat belt. Senator Hartnett mentioned the problem of the structure of the highway. All of these things are thrown out the window. Senator Jones will stand up and say he rode one day with the State Patrol so he thinks that this seat belt thing ought to be done. Senator Crosby raised a very important point, added to by others, that the cell phones are not going to be made illegal to be used while driving because the big shots use them. Well, brothers and sisters, it was last year, I believe, I want to say the name of the person killed is McGill, but I'm not certain, but he was the brother of a lawyer with whom I went to law school, and this woman was driving down the highway using her cell phone. It slipped out of her hand, she tried to retrieve it, she went across the median, hit his car head on, and he was killed. And where was Byars and Bromm then saying let's save lives by getting rid of these cell phones? They are afraid to touch those issues. But I'll tell you what, you all are teaching me something, Deacon Jones and the rest of you. When the packers, I'm talking about the meat packers, got together to put a severe hurt on the producers, you know who the person is who gets the most contact from rural people, including cattle growers, ranchers and others? Moi, me. They call me so much that I cannot get work done, write me letters. Some of them