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about why it's necessary to vote against the Chambers amendment. Chambers' amendment brings us back to where we are today--secondary offense, have to have another reason for filing a citation in order to file a second citation for the "nonwearing" of seat belts. Is that bad? No. I voted in this body in 1993 for that legislation. But is it time when we need to change? Yes. Why? Why do we need to change? We saw dramatic decreases in the amount of traffic deaths, the injuries related to traffic deaths, the cost to us, as a society, from death and in medical care. We saw the effect of this legislation reach a 50-year low in 1995. But, unfortunately, as we talked about education earlier and as we talked about the plateau of the effect of this legislation, we have seen a steady increase in deaths attributed to motor vehicle accidents since declining to that 50-year low in 1995. We now have increased, from traffic-related deaths of 248 in 1995, to 315 in 1998. Testimony continuously, individuals that came before the Transportation Committee in support of this legislation, said time and time again, as you've heard Senator Bromm, the most effective ways to reduce fatalities in Nebraska would be to elevate the seat belt law to a primary enforcement status. More than 70 percent of the people killed in Nebraska crashes were not wearing a safety belt at the time of the crash. And let's talk about some more statistics. For persons over 21 years of age, fatality rates dropped 20 percent in primary states versus 8 percent in secondary states in the first full year after enforcement of seat belt laws began, 8 percent for secondary laws, 20 percent for making seat belts a primary offense. This is for persons over 21. For persons 21 and younger, it's even more dramatic. Fatality rates dropped by 23 percent in primary states, versus a 3 percent drop in secondary states; 23 percent versus 3 percent drop in secondary states. Will this legislation make a difference to all of the people in this state? Absolutely. The evidence is overwhelming. All of the arguments about individual rights, about...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: ...harassment have...have to be taken into the context of what this bill does. And understand, the Chambers amendment, as it's introduced, takes us...leaves us at the status quo. It guts my bill. It guts LB 356. Understand that.