

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

February 24, 1999 LB 356

Senator Coordsen. What is the difference, folks? I have to...I have to hear it. I'm not hearing it. I don't understand, and I'm willing to listen to the rationale. I know what Senator Chambers' rationale is. I know what Senator Schmitt's rationale is, and I understand that. I accept it. And maybe that's everyone else's rationale as well, but I'd certainly like to hear it before the bill goes up in smoke, and we will have a better idea about whether to put the helmet bill out on the floor or not because we certainly want to accommodate our colleagues in what their wishes are. But, from a policy standpoint, the medical costs involved with serious crash injuries and deaths, I just...there's lots of reasons. And if there's harassment that results, I say we get on the harassers. I say we do everything under our power and...and I...I'm sure Senator Chambers would, and I would hope that many of us would try to if that were the case. I know there's abuse and we don't have a perfect police force. I wish we did. But are we going to repeal all of the laws because we have a few bad apples out there? We must do what's good for the most people down here. Our decision...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...our decisions must be based on what's good for the most people. And I mean that in a sense that I'm talking about everyone, all inclusive. If this saves lives of every...every nationality, of every income group, I would feel we had done something very worthwhile. But those who are opposed to the bill, certainly I want to hear your rationale and it will help, perhaps, the Transportation Committee decide. We got about four or five more issues that...that are safety related that we...that we have to make decisions on and maybe if we hear some rationale we'll know how to deal with those issues as well. So thank you for your attention.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Engel for discussion on the advancement of LB 356.

SENATOR ENGEL: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in support of the Byars bill, LB 356. I don't think there's any question that seat, at this point, that seat belts save lives and reduce injuries resulting from auto accidents. I've been in