

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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letter, that purported letter that he read from, so that we can have it, in the same way that I circulated the article that I dealt with. But I have something here that is interesting because Senator Schrock, who nobody can say is "anti-law enforcement", as far as I know, is reported in this morning's or yesterday's Kearney Hub, I just got it today, and this is what the article by the AP says: A new state law relating to teenagers and driving is causing some problems in rural parts of the state. When some teenagers in rural Nebraska drive to the closest town to go to a movie or some other event, they risk a run-in with police if they try to make it home too late. That's because a law passed by the Legislature last year allows teens to drive unsupervised only from 6 a.m. to midnight unless they are traveling to or from work or a school activity. The Transportation Committee heard testimony on a bill, LB 460, Tuesday by Senator Ed Schrock of Elm Creek that would allow counties with fewer than 15,000 people to extend the hours teens can drive beyond those two activities. "In rural counties quite often the opportunity to go to a theater involves driving a considerable distance, 60, 70, 80 miles, in some cases," said Randy Stovall, an aide to Schrock. "Some of these counties are so large and not very populated, it's a way of getting the kids back home okay and within the law," Stovall said. Why should they be concerned about run-ins with the police? The police are not going to kill them. They can't show you as many examples of cops killing white kids as I can show you of black people being killed in Omaha alone. But Senator Schrock, because he doesn't want these youngsters to have unnecessary run-ins with the police, is asking that we change the law, and the Legislature probably will agree to do it. And the reason I will agree to it is because I didn't agree to some of those restrictions put on young people in the first place when that original bill was brought before us. I might check to see how Senator Schrock voted on that bill. Often I give arguments on this floor and the senators totally disregard them because they say, well, that'll just be Ernie in his district and what do we care about that. Then, lo and behold, they go home and find out it affected them. Then they come back to try to change the very law that I opposed and they chose not to regard. But I tell you, brothers and sisters, this bill that Senator Byars has before us gives us an opportunity to flush a lot of things out into the open, and just where we stand, and how we're going to