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LB 126

going to talk a little bit about my experience with this particular bill. For three years I carried this bill. In 1997, I prioritized it, and not the bill completely the way it's written, but the part where it takes the driver's licenses away from youth. Was LB 603, and in '97 time ran out and in '98 we went to the '98 priority bills first and never did get back to the '97 priority bills, so it died. I believe that it will have a significant impact on the use of alcohol by our teenagers. First of all, LB 603, and before that I forgot the number that I carried it under, this bill was brought to me by teenagers. I belong to a group called the Nebraska Drug-Free Youth Network, which has a membership of about 4,000 teenagers across the state of Nebraska. They have a drug and alcohol prevention retreat every summer in the month of July at one of the colleges, with an attendance of three to five hundred people. They asked me to bring this bill. They said something needs to be done about minors in possession, because all it is, is a slap on the hand for those who are drinking. So bringing the bill to the Legislature in all three years that I carried it, when young people came to the Capitol to visit they would ask me to talk to them, and I found out right away why--because they had already heard about this bill and were wondering what we were trying to do with their driver's licenses if they drank. I remember a kid from Millard one day saying, who the "H" do you think you are trying to take away our driver's licenses; it will never work. And my answer to him was, it's already working because you are concerned and you know. It has to work because we've got too many young people dying. One of the examples that Senator Robak used was a young person driving who was clean, not using, and driving for those others who were drunk. I'm not an advocate of that in any way, shape or form either. I can tell you one of many stories. The one that sticks out the most is a young man on prom night was driving a Jeep and had other students in the Jeep with him. He was not drinking. The others had...were dead drunk and, while they were going down the road, one of the drunks grabbed the steering wheel, gave it a yank, and the Jeep rolled. They had seat belts on, but the driver, who was sober, the Jeep rolled over him and killed him. This is an attempt to do something that I believe will have some direct impact on the use of kids and alcohol. Will it be used fairly? I don't know. I have no control over that. I, however, want it to be used fairly. To be fair and consistent is the need that we need with