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years in a row, it was 16.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. So it has...it has had a public hearing and I'm glad that it has, but I believe that there's still problems. There are current court cases right now pending on the discrimination based on just the fact that personal watercraft is more maneuverable and potentially...potentially more dangerous. And I...my greatest reservation is the facts behind the accidents and the average ages, and so forth, that we have, and I believe we could generate more information. That's why I'm supporting a study. I don't believe that the facts can lead to the conclusion that we need to limit the age or establish a minimum age. I believe that, you know, we can study it and pursue the issue with more facts in the future. And another reservation that I have is if we're going to limit all of the riders here in Nebraska, we're only encouraging them to go to the other states, as Senator Schrock mentioned, how the ages are different in surrounding states and I...that concerns me. And I guess my final thought is, at least this time around, is if Senator Janssen doesn't feel safe, as he said he might kill himself on a jet ski, I'm wondering if the 16-year provision will solve our problems. Thank you, Madam Chairman.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. Senator Matzke, you are next, followed by Senators Bohlke, Schrock, Bromm and Janssen.

SENATOR MATZKE: Thank you, Madam President and members of the Legislature. I want to respond to one issue that was brought up, I think by Senator Smith in his previous comments. He made notice of the fact that the present regulations the Game and Parks Commission limit use to 14-year-olds. I'm advised that, from a legal standpoint, Game and Parks has a question as to whether they actually have statutory authority to set an age limit. They do in their regulations. There's a legal question as to whether that has the full force and effect of law. So I think there's a valid reason for putting an age limitation in the statute, whether it's 16 or whether it's 14, and I think it's essential that we do that. I personally believe that it should be 16. I've introduced bills previously for age 16. I would like to comment or remind the members of the body that I...the last time we discussed this, I passed out a copy of a news clipping from the Lincoln Journal in which the leading