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saves dollars. But I want to commend Senator Baker for allowing us to do this, Senator Thompson, for all of the work that she has put into it and, colleagues, this honestly gives those of you who have taken from flak in your districts about mandatory seat belts an opportunity to do the right thing, and let's start with the kids. This is a good place to begin. I hope you're all taking my lead and starting to read the newspapers everyday and look at the carnage that's continuing on our highways. And it's unfortunate that it takes accidents like those that happened to Derrick Thomas, who is a sports celebrity, to bring home the point that if you don't wear your seat belt you're likely going to be injured severely or killed. And I hope everybody noticed in Senator Thompson's handout, that in the accident that highlighted him this weekend, Derrick Thomas was not wearing a seat belt. Who knows whether he will walk again or not. We pray that he will. His longtime friend, a Mr. Tellis, was not wearing a seat belt, was killed in that accident. The third occupant of the car, minor injuries, was wearing his seat belt and was in the back seat. So, please make note of this. I read an article in the paper yesterday about a child, Senator Baker, I'm sure you've noted this, a child in the state of Nebraska, in rural Nebraska, who was killed and was unrestrained, under five years of age. So let's help to make Nebraskans more responsible. Let's try to give them this opportunity. I think it's our obligation, as policymakers. I think this is a good compromise. Certainly, we need to go further. Certainly, it is our obligation to go further, but I think this is a step in the right direction. I certainly stand in strong support of not only to the Thompson amendment but also Senator Baker's bill. Thank you.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Hilgert.

**SENATOR HILGERT:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. I have differed with my colleague, Senator Byars, on the floor about the primary offense, secondary offense regarding seat belt use, but what we are talking about here is children. If you're mature, and there is those who believe that you have the right to make poor decisions, that's one argument. But children don't have that opportunity to make that...make a bad decision. Those decisions are made by their parents and by people who are older and more mature and should be looking out for the welfare of the