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children. So I congratulate and applaud Senator Thompson for bringing this amendment. I am not sure if I am going to vote for her secondary amendment or not because I do think this should probably be a primary offense, but when we are speaking about the safety of children, I think this is a very good amendment and would encourage the body to support it. Thank you.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Bromm, followed by Senator Vrtiska, Chambers, Thompson, and Kremer.

**SENATOR BROMM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Senator Thompson's amendment was a bill, was heard in the Transportation Committee, was received favorably. Really, as I recall, there wasn't any opposition to the bill. You know, and I probably feel very similar I think to Senator Byars about this issue, but I also...I do recognize that public opinion isn't necessarily with us and we can't...we can't always get ahead of the public opinion too far. And so this is an incremental change with respect to the requirement of wearing seat belts. It is incremental in the respect that it applies to only those under sixteen years of age. The next amendment will make it a secondary offense; you would have to be stopped for a violation, a moving violation, in order to be ticketed for the offense, if the following amendment is adopted. I can't say that I would have necessarily supported such a compromise but I certainly respect the introducer of the bill and her desire to get something done, and I will support it in that light. I think it's only a matter of time until other...other avenues of convincing people to wear their seat belt are used, whether it be insurance companies or liability issues, but I think it's...the data is overwhelming in terms of the savings of lives and savings of costs if you are buckled up. There are...your chances of survival or of avoiding a life-changing injury are so much greater if you have a restraint on when you are involved in an accident, it is just proven over and over again. And the newspapers are doing a pretty consistent job of pointing out, when there is a fatality, whether or not that person was restrained or not. And it's just story after story if you've been watching the last six months or so. And I appreciate the fact that they are pointing that out. I think that is important for the public to keep seeing that and hearing that, and so, you