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know, I think this is a step in the right direction. I support the efforts. I commend Senator Thompson, Senator Byars, and Senator Baker for facilitating this and hope the body will see fit to adopt this and the following amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I echo the words of Senator Bromm. Education is certainly the issue that is before us, and the more we can educate people to these issues that have been talked about this morning, the quicker we can resolve this issue. I guess I felt like some of my colleagues that the secondary offense issue is not exactly what I would like with young people only being cited when or the individual charged only being cited where it's a secondary offense. But there again, we are moving in the right direction and I guess it's one step at a time. The thing that you're concerned about is how many lives are we going to sacrifice while we are moving through this process. But I understand it's an emotional issue. When Senator Byars had his bill, I got, as I'm sure many of you did, lots of information on both sides of the issue, those who feel like government interference is the wrong thing, that we don't need to force people to do things, and those who said now what do we do to protect the public from themselves. And so I support this move in this direction. I suspect that as we move along we will see more education and, hopefully, get people to understand, as Senator Byars has indicated, the incidents that have happened. I have had them happen in my neighborhood. I could cite the people who were in roll-over accidents where there was little...a little amount of damage to the vehicle and yet the person was thrown out and killed. And had they been, it was very obvious, had they been strapped in, they would have survived, probably with minor injuries because of the small amount of damage that was done to the vehicle. And so I guess it's just to point that we're going in the right direction and I hope that we can continue to educate people that...you know, many years ago I was one of those people who never wore a seat belt, but I watch statistics and I see what happens, and it came...I came to the point where I don't...I don't leave my...I don't start my car and drive anywhere that I don't put on a seat belt because I guess I'm getting to the age I'm getting kind of scary. So I think it has