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LB 1018

offices over whether our statute actually allowed this vehicle to be...to drive on Nebraska highways and streets. So the bill that you have, or the amendment that you have before you was developed through the help of the Department of Motor Vehicles, so that these vehicles can operate on Nebraska highways. They would only be allowed to be on streets that are 30 miles per hour or less, and it amends a number...it's a large amendment because it had to amend a number of sections of statute. It would treat these vehicles, under the Nebraska Rules of the Road, as any other motor vehicle. Instead of a license plate, the Department of Motor Vehicles would furnish a numbered decal which would be affixed to the upper half of the low-speed vehicle. In addition, it would be taxed like a passenger car, truck, utility vehicle or van on the Motor Vehicle Tax Schedule. On the front page of what's being passed out to you is a picture of the vehicle. These were...the vehicle was brought down for an interim study hearing this summer, and as you can see some members of the committee took a ride in the vehicle. And, Senator Byars, you'll notice that they are wearing their seat belts. (Laugh) It has lights, it has turn signals, brake lights, a trunk, windshield wipers, all those types of things that a car has. Although it looks like kind of a fancy golf cart, it is a vehicle that can be driven on the streets. And one of the reasons behind this vehicle was so that people in retirement communities, for example, throughout the country and other places could have a vehicle that they could drive. You'd still have to have a drivers' license, of course, but this is a little smaller vehicle; it's inexpensive to drive, can get people short distances back and forth from places they may wish to go. And I would just urge your support of this. Other states, these vehicles can be sold and licensed on the road, and this just puts Nebraska at the same point as they are. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. We are now open for discussion on the Thompson amendment, AM2498, to LB 1018. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Thompson, I had read the amendment earlier; I had not seen a picture of the vehicle, but this amendment as drafted would apply to any vehicle that could be driven at the speed that you mention. Is