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LB 303

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith and Senator Aguilar. Senator Quandahl. Is Senator Quandahl...

SENATOR QUANDAHL: Mr. President, members of the body, I haven't had a chance to weigh in on the issue at large yet and so I will take this opportunity to do that also. I'm one of those people that probably comes at this from, I think Senator Friend said it earlier, a more kind of a libertarian aspect of it in that the people that we would require to wear helmets under Senator Smith's bill would be those under the age of 21. Senator Smith's bill, with the committee amendments, adds a number of requirements to those who would wish to ride their motorcycles without helmets. They've got to be at least 21 years of age. They have to have proof of health insurance. They have to complete a motorcycle safety training course, and they also have to wear proper eye protection, too. And so if you look at it as sort of a balancing of not only our concern for the safety and our cost to society, that perhaps a bill like this, if passed, would cost the state of Nebraska, but you also have to look at it from a standpoint of the freedom that it would allow our citizens to, basically, live their lives or ride their motorcycles in a manner in which they desire. And so for that reason, I guess I would be predisposed to support Senator Smith's bill. I do have some questions, and I'll turn the remainder of my time over to Senator Smith. There are some of these amendments that are coming up and, in particular, Senator Dwite Pedersen's amendment here dealing with organ donation. And I guess my question to Senator Smith is, is that if any of these amendments that have appeared so far would be acceptable, an acceptable compromise to add to the bill to perhaps even make it better than it is. Senator Smith, I would yield the rest of my time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith, you have about two and a half minutes.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Senator Quandahl and members. I haven't looked at the most current list of amendments, so I would need to delay my answer to that question. There are some that are problematic. There are some probably that I could live