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LB 303

Chair.

SENATOR SCHIMEK PRESIDING

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Seeing no further lights on the amendment, Senator Beutler, did you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Schimek, members of the Legislature, Senator Baker, let me ask a couple of additional questions.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Baker, would you yield?

SENATOR BEUTLER: If I might, since you apparently have some familiarity with this subject. How much do these helmets cost, a good one?

SENATOR BAKER: I asked that question in the committee hearing, as I recall, and it's...if...they have to be approved by the National Highway Safety people, but a good one, a full...what do I want to say...a full-face helmet costs several hundred dollars. We're talking about the complete helmet, full-face, the plexi...the glass, the Plexiglas front. I think somebody told me it is up to \$400 for a helmet. And some of these that I question whether they are actually approved, which they apparently are, they have a sticker on them, are as cheap as 40 to 50 dollars.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, thank you. Just, the thought that occurs me is simply the fact that if these do cost 100 to 200 dollars, the people who are not going to have them will tend to be low-income people, to begin with, and will tend to be the very young who haven't built up any equities in different things. And they would also tend to be low-income or without particular assets. So the people most likely not to wear the helmets are going to be the people most unable to pay the medical bills of any accidents or injuries. So, you know, when I think about things like that, I then tend towards making sure that everybody has had a proper training course and everybody knows what they're doing. And I think that I will withdraw the amendment, but I certainly hope we can discuss this further and