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traumatic brain injury. It's obvious. As Senator Jensen so aptly, aptly demonstrated why, why you wear helmets. They are to protect you; protect you from injury, protect you from death. It absolutely makes sense. I do want to spend a couple of minutes on the cost because this is directly related to Senator Brashear's amendment. This is a piece that you all received this morning from Theresa Huber, the Omaha Trauma Center at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. We talked yesterday about trying to get more facts on the cost of traumatic brain injury, and I think...I hope you will all refer to it. You've all had this on your e-mail but I want to make it a part of the record. In conclusion, from cost of injuries resulting from motorcycle crashes, this is a literature review done in November of 2002, only slightly more than half of motorcycle crash victims have private health insurance coverage. For patients without private insurance, a majority of medical costs are paid by whom? That would be us, the government. From the Family Caregiver Alliance, the following facts about the cost of head injuries, which are staggering, nationwide the total economic costs for all head injuries approaches \$5 billion per year in direct and indirect costs of medical, rehabilitative and support services and lost wages. For an individual, the lifetime cost for care of a head injury survivor are estimated to be between \$4.1 million and \$9 million. In terms of acute care, the average hospital stay for a patient with a severe head injury is about 45 to 60 days at a cost of \$324,000 per person. On average, posthospital rehabilitation services cost \$125,000 per year, and may be required for several years. And I'll get to the point.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: Only slightly more than half of motorcycle crash victims have private health insurance coverage. For patients without that private insurance, the majority of the medical costs are paid by the government. This may appear on its surface to be an amendment that Senator Brashear dreamed about. I think it's a great amendment. I think it puts the pressure exactly right where that pressure point should be. Less government, personal responsibility, personal choice. I urge your support for this amendment.