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LB 303

belt. Seat belt is supposed to save your life and, by the way, it does. And here's my take on that. My take on that is that what we do for the majority, we allow it to be a secondary, a secondary offense, which means you can't be pulled over and ticketed for not having your seat belt on. And that, by the way, saves lives. But we don't do that because we don't infringe on the public's rights in the majority unless they have done something else wrong. And there is resistance to that. Now Denny Byars, in another consistent speech, very consistent in his strategy, LB 303, his feelings are the same as the seat belt, and by the way, I think it's a reflection of his beliefs, he would like to make that a primary offense in which case you would have an equivalency between the helmet and the seat belt. And by the way, the rationale is exactly the same to me, saving lives and social costs. But where it's the majority whose freedom is being influenced or dictated to by society,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...we say it's a secondary offense. We're not going to impose on you. But when it comes to the minority, which is the motorcycle driver, we say, you know it's a primary offense. I'd do one of three things. I'd do seat belts and helmets, primary. I'd do seat belts and helmets, secondary. But it seems to me that if you're going to do them differently, and that's what we do, I'm going to vote for LB 303. I'm going to vote for LB 303 because I think it's a choice that we legitimately ought to let adults make. It's a stupid choice but I'm going to say it's theirs, and they don't go so far as to discount themselves from the social fabric that we've otherwise done because this stupid choice is rather like stupid choices that so many of the rest of us make in so many other areas, and we don't get...we don't cut ourselves off from Medicaid. We don't do assumption of risk on that basis. I'm going to vote for the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Thompson, followed by Senator Vrtiska, Erdman, Chambers, Bourne, Johnson, and Smith. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the