

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

April 9, 2003      LB 303

SENATOR VRTISKA:      Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the body. I would like to weigh in on the amendment that Senator Brashear has provided for us, and I'd like to ask Senator Brashear a question. Before I do, I'd like to read what the section says, and it talks about not being eligible for any benefits provided by the state related to healthcare, rehabilitation, long-term care for people who choose not to wear helmets. I'd like to ask Senator Brashear a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Would you yield, Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      Yes, Mr. President.

SENATOR VRTISKA:      Senator Brashear, if the state is not going to provide it, obviously somebody is going to, isn't that correct? I mean we're not going to leave people lay out there and die that have a head injury because they didn't wear a helmet, I assume.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      Well,...

SENATOR VRTISKA:      The question is...

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      ...you can assume that, but I'm not exactly certain who.

SENATOR VRTISKA:      Well, the question that I need to get to and I need an answer to is, if the state is not going to provide it, apparently the doctors and the hospitals are going to have to provide it, or I would assume someone would have to.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      Or maybe the parents, maybe the spouse, maybe the siblings, maybe the greater family, the larger family,...

SENATOR VRTISKA:      Well,...

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      ...maybe the church, you know, maybe charities.

SENATOR VRTISKA:      Maybe the hospital, maybe the doctor.