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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 303

That's been injected into debate, but that's not the case. Senator Jensen said that what some call a crotch rocket, that high-speed, high-performance motorcycles, you wouldn't need eye protection. No, that's wrong. That windshield does not meet the criteria established in the bill for the necessity of eye protection. Senator Johnson mentioned the specialties of physicians and saying we shouldn't listen to an orthopedic surgeon on spinal issues, but we should listen to an anesthesiologist that has taken on this issue in a personal way. As far as the amendment goes, I think the debate has been productive because it, as a result of discussing other issues, it reflects light back upon the issue at hand in how motorcyclists are viewed far different than anyone else going out and behaving in a manner that statistically is risky. There are a lot of statistically risky activities that...riding a Big Wheel was mentioned earlier and there have been kids who have had a Big Wheel accident, and I suppose the Center for Disease Control can say that all Big Wheel riders should wear a helmet when the real issue is parental involvement. And the real issue here is preventing accidents and that's why the training mechanism in the bill can be very effective. Now something that all of these studies by physicians, and let's assume that the studies are unbiased, they don't look at the safety course. Accidents happen because motorcycles are there, not because a helmet isn't worn. I hope that we can defeat this amendment, but I appreciate the discussion, and move this bill along. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Stuthman, followed by Senator Brown.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. First of all, when you look at me, I am a statistic...I could have been a statistic many, many times, and I'll relate to that. And, first of all, I would like to give a little reference to Senator Thompson's discussion as far as the roads are concerned and that would probably lead into one of my first mishaps, which occurred in 1955. I rolled a tractor and was pinned under a tractor. Had no broken bones. Spent one day in the hospital. Went back to work on the farm. The next incident, I had a bad car accident in 1962. Severe head