

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

April 9, 2003

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type of seat belt bill was passed. So I am, again, willing to talk about some amendments onto this bill to restore the training, which I think it terribly important. I would never want to have a bill left without any kind of training for people who choose to ride motorcycles because I think it's important that they are instructed and have the training on doing it properly and in the safest manner. That's where I'm at on this. I hope that some of you can look at this carefully and decide in your own mind...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...if this is the right thing to do, and if you do then I'd suggest that you support this amendment and we move forward and try to include the training back into the bill, into the amendment, to make sure that, as I said before, people who ride are trained properly and do take the precautions for the sake of safety. And so I ask you to support this amendment to the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Smith. Senator Smith waives his opportunity to speak. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I rise in opposition to this amendment. If you're trying to look at enforcement of this law, this puts the law enforcement in a really difficult position. Unlike in a car, where you can't see if somebody is wearing a seat belt, the police will have no way to stop someone who is just riding around violating the law, I mean it's very obvious if the person has a helmet on or not, there will be just a way to thumb their nose at enforcement of state laws. And I don't think we should put our police in a situation where they know that someone is violating the law and have to look for something else on the bike or the person or whatever, which is a limited number of things anyway, to be able to stop them and say the law of the state is that you wear your helmet. And this is a weakening of law and I don't think we should do it. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. There are no