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FLOOR DEBATE

May 1, 2003

LB 305, 348

going to help those individuals and really add a safer environment. And on the water, one of the biggest problems is, just like highways, it's alcohol. And really the 14- and 15-year-olds and 16-year-olds, it's not much of a problem. It's when you get to the...and don't take this wrong, but it's when you get to the college age, or 21 years of age, and they get out there without adult supervision, that sometimes alcohol can be a problem. With that, I do support the amendment...or, I support the proposal to bring the bill back to Select File and do what Senator Erdman would like to accomplish.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Seeing no other lights on, do you wish to close? He waives the opportunity to close. The question before the body is, shall LB 305 be returned to Select File for specific amendment? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Motion before the body is return LB 305 for specific amendment. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Erdman, you're recognized to open. The motion was successful and you're recognized to open on your AM1556.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, again, the underlying amendment, AM1556, is a portion of LB 348. The portions that were of concern to members when we addressed this the last time on Final Reading have been removed and I appreciate their willingness to discuss that. And I'd also make the comment that when we talk about the number of deaths on the water versus the number of deaths on the road, realize that most of those deaths on the water occur in a short time period between the summer months, as compared to on the road which is over an entire year, and the number of vehicles versus the number of deaths. And so I think there are some ironies, if you will, between what we're trying to accomplish here, but I think when you look at the boating law and compare it to the motor vehicle laws, and specifically in regards to the realities of the water, the rules of the water, if you will, I