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FLOOR DEBATE

February 6, 2004 LB 227

his amendment refines the exemption in LB 227. I would strike from Senator Quandahl's amendment "25" and insert "20." Instead of allowing these vehicles to be traveling 25 miles an hour, I'm saying that it would be...oh, you defeated 20. That was too low. This amendment would up the ante. I recall now where...what...the direction that I was going. It strikes "25" and puts in "30." What I had decided to do, since the body did not want to go downward with the speed limit, is to ratchet it upward until I reach that point where the fear, the common sense, the prudence or, hopefully, the intelligence of my colleagues will kick in and they'll say no vehicle going this rate of speed can have those young people in those unsafe conditions. This is one of those exemptions which I would call unsafe at any speed, unsafe at any speed. You have these young people in the insecured position while being in the open bed of the pickup or in the cargo area of the other type of truck. I want to ask Senator Aguilar a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Aguilar, would you respond?

SENATOR AGUILAR: I will.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Aguilar, may there be equipment, cargo or other items in the bed of the pickup in which this young person will be laboring? Is that allowed under your bill?

SENATOR AGUILAR: There's nothing in the bill about that, I don't think.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If the young person is back there discharging his or her duties of employment, there must be something in that truck that the young people is having something to do with. Isn't that true?

SENATOR AGUILAR: Not necessarily. What we were thinking of with that exemption is, like, if a farmer was hauling a group of people out to his fields to detassel. They wouldn't necessarily have anything else in with them.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But it will apply if something is in there, won't it?