

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

February 12, 2004 LB 227

ago that 16 and under had to be fastened in. We did advance a bill out that says everyone in the vehicle must be restrained. It's still a secondary offense in Senator Byars' bill, but it's out there. It's on...it's out of committee. So that's...may enter into my decision on the 18 and under. I don't have so much trouble with that as I do possibly with some of the exemptions and so on, because I do know it's a factor out there and I...I'm trying to think back. I'd like to get some statistics, if somebody had them, as to any deaths or injuries falling out of pickups, whether they were rural settings or urban, and I can't think of a serious one. I know I've been involved with working fatal accidents on pickups and things, but they were passengers in the cab, within the confines of the cab. I just can't think of any in the back, even injuries, let alone fatalities, other than the one that did happen in my district years ago. So I'm...I want to make sure people understand the differences what we have here. Senator Quandahl spoke very well about changes and concerns he had. I have some of the same concerns, but as now, I'm going to go ahead and continue to listen to the debate. And need to point out though that, folks, this is a primary offense now, not a secondary offense, and it's a serious offense. So it's a lot different than the green copy of the bill and I would remind people to keep that in mind. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Schrock, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, this bill is well-intended and I've not followed the debate too close, but I thought maybe I wanted to say something about it. I don't know how you legislate common sense. I would acknowledge that farming is probably the most dangerous occupation in the state of Nebraska, and it's a dangerous place for kids to grow up. But I don't know, if you pass this, how you're going to enforce it. I haven't seen a law enforcement on my...law enforcement officer on my farm in the past ten years, and what I do, nobody is going to turn me in. If I have grandchildren in the back of my pickup, you can be darn sure I'm not going to drive over 25 and I'm not going to drive in a place where there's oncoming traffic. We can't even enforce the speed