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January 25, 2005 LB 80

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, I would.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you. My understanding is the students are not required to wear seat belts on a school bus. Is that right?

SENATOR BAKER: That's correct.

SENATOR FISCHER: Did the committee address any concerns that were brought up about school buses traveling on the interstate system and going at higher speeds when students are not required to wear seat belts? I know students in our area, we travel huge distances and usually when they're on the interstate, just as school board policy, they drive at a slower rate. Did the committee ever address that?

SENATOR BAKER: We did not address that. We have in the past. The committee has had school bus seat belt proposals in front of it. There's none this session, that I know of. But typically, the National Highway Transportation Safety Board comes back with a recommendation, and we have had this as an issue, that the school buses are compartmentalized and address the issue of lack of seat belts in them, and the committee in the past has always felt that they...that the seat belt issue in school buses is addressed through compartmentalization and side bracing and so on, and that's why no requirement of seat belts in school buses at this time.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Fischer. Further discussion on advancement of LB 80? Seeing no lights on, Senator Baker, you're recognized to close. He waives closing. The question before the body is advancement of LB 80 to E & R Initial. All those in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. The question before the body is advancement of LB 80 to E & R Initial. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of