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February 23, 2005 LB 7

I'd like a little more information on the history of this situation, if I could direct a question to Senator Pedersen, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Pedersen, would you respond to a question from Senator Combs?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Yes, Senator Combs.

SENATOR COMBS: I was wondering, how many years has this been going on prior to your legislation being brought forward?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: Fifty years.

SENATOR COMBS: Fifty years? Okay. Can you tell me, in that 50 years, how many injuries or deaths have occurred by people collecting being struck by automobiles, or having other misfortune occur that we have been discussing for the last 15 minutes?

SENATOR Dw. PEDERSEN: I'm not aware of any.

SENATOR COMBS: Thank you. I return my time to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Combs. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I did not quite make clear when I spoke on this bill the first time, I do support it. I support the charities that these entities raise money for, and I think that this is a good bill, and I intend to support it. I also believe that as a Legislature, we should do things directly. And if Senator Baker is concerned about liability on behalf of the state, then we should craft an amendment that simply says, there is no liability by the state or the municipality that authorizes this, and go from there. He...Senator Baker is saying that he is doing this because somehow there would be some liability by the state, and if he says that there's no soliciting on the roadways that are a part of the state highway system, then that liability might go away. I don't believe that to be the case. If we want to say that there's no liability on behalf of the state or the municipality,