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February 24, 2005 LB 76

SENATOR BOURNE: Senator Baker, does this bill have anything to do with the Department of Roads?

SENATOR BAKER: Not directly, that I know of, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: I was just asking for some clarification on that regard. I do want to ask you a couple quick questions, though. On...Senator Raikes' question kind of was along the lines of what I was asking. Is the language that would deny, or not...disallow a person under age 18 from having a CDL, is that new language?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, it is.

SENATOR BOURNE: So...and how do these CDL licenses relate to 17-year-old, 18-year-old, or close to 18-year-old kids driving on the farm? Do they have to have a CDL?

SENATOR BAKER: Not unless they're driving a vehicle that qualifies as a commercial vehicle, which is air brakes,...there's a whole set of guidelines of what constitutes a commercial vehicle on a...in that case.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. But it is new, in that right now there's no requirement that you have to be at least 18 to have a CDL license?

SENATOR BAKER: No.

SENATOR BOURNE: And so the bill does change it in that regard, that you would have to be at least 18 years old to have a CDL?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, it does.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. So I...and again, I'm not a farmer, but I...my question, originally--and then Senator Raikes touched on it, but didn't go far enough--is that it would impact farm kids that are 16, 17, and under 18, if they have...say they're driving a truck back and forth from the field to an elevator or a silo?