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FLOOR DEBATE

March 11, 2005 LB 76

next round of Select File debate?

SENATOR BAKER: Senator Bourne, what you're talking about was in LB 76, and it's been on Select File for some time. I'd really hate to pass over this, to be honest with you. There is an appeal process. Any time there's a license revocation proposed, it is in Chapter 60-4,105, there is an appeal procedure. Without just reading through it for you, they, obviously, can request a hearing and go through that process. And I have to remind you that this, again, only relieves a person from...or prohibits a person from driving for 60 days as a commercial driver, not...

SENATOR BOURNE: Senator Baker, if you are a commercial driver, how do you get paid if you're not driving?

SENATOR BAKER: I am a commercial driver, Senator Bourne. I have a Class A CDL. And let me tell you, if I'm pulling an 80...driving an 80,000 pound rig, which I do, loaded with fertilizer, I'm not going to make an improper lane change. And if I do, I ought to be penalized. And I...certainly if I don't have my CDL license on me, I'd say I'm...I deserve to have my driving privileges taken away for 60 days.

SENATOR BOURNE: So you're saying that because somebody makes an improper lane change, makes a mistake, was in a rush that morning and somehow didn't put their billfold in their pocket, that they...that that conduct is warranted that they shouldn't have a paycheck for 60 days?

SENATOR BAKER: You'd have to do two of these.

SENATOR BOURNE: It...I'm...

SENATOR BAKER: And I tell you what--I've got my commercial driver's license here in my hand. If I'm driving a commercial truck, weighing 80,000 pounds, with hazardous material in it, and I make an improper lane change and crush somebody's car with a 45-foot trailer behind me, I deserve to lose my CDL for 60 days.