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can't remember ever receiving a bit of information from a group that's this impressive and this large. And these people are people who are well aware of the trauma caused by "helmetless" motorcycle riders. They also give statistics in their memo to us. And it says, according to the National Safety Council, Greater Omaha Chapter, during 1973 to 1988, a period in which the state of Nebraska had no helmet law, Nebraska saw 446 fatalities, and 18,373 injuries. After the mandatory helmet law was enacted in 1989, fatalities had dropped to 153, and injuries to 5,497 from 1989 to 2004. Now, I know that some of that decrease, Senator Smith, was due to the numbers of motorcycles on the road. We did have fewer motorcycles on the road during that period. But I believe a great deal of it was also due to...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...the use of helmets. Did you say time, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: I said one minute, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. In addition to this, the Nebraska Hospital Association has given us more statistics. They say that under this bill, LB 70, only 976 riders under age 21 in Nebraska would be required to wear a helmet, under LB 70. The bill exempts operators and passengers who are 21 and over. And they say that approximately 58,810 individuals would be exempt from wearing helmets.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's a very large statistic. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Jensen and others.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President. And I'm trying to stay calm back here, as I believe that the scenario...Senator Schimek, with all due respect, the numbers you're using are misleading, and they're misleading with the intent to make the