

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 19, 2005 LB 70

concerns me is, you know, if we have the helmet law and it's the right thing to do and it's what the insurance companies want and it is the right thing to do, why don't other states adopt the same policy that we have? There are 17 states out there that have either a partial or a no helmet law, you know. Are we doing something that should be done by all the states, or are the other states doing something that's better?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator...

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Can you respond to that, Senator Smith, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: I would ask some of the same questions, but the, shall I say, a lot of these insurance companies are not as anxious to or is not excited about the mandatory helmet law as they once were. I think that's very fair. That's my own analysis. And I couldn't support that with actual statistics, but that's the give and take that I have experienced. There is...there are two very vocal groups and they've signed up some other groups because it's fashionable to do so. But it comes down to a bias. Really, it does.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Senator Smith. That is a concern that I have. You know, if we're just 3 states in this block of states of 20 states here and we are doing the right thing, why don't other states...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: ...adopt the same principle that we have here? But it seems to me like that if there's 17 to 3, the majority of them don't feel that that is the direction that they want to go and they want to have it with the education part of it. And I am truly supportive of the amendment that we have. I think the education is a must, and I think education with anything is very, very important because that tells the people, that shows the people, you know, what they possibly should be doing. But I think, realistically, then it should be the