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FLOOR DEBATE

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shouldn't look to surveys for governance but if we're going to cite numbers, let's cite the whole survey, not just the one that supports our argument.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: I know that there are arguments that the helmet law saves lives, therefore, the government should mandate helmets. I will tell you again that if we took that philosophy, there will be several bills next year, and perhaps there will be anyway regardless of if it can be pulled off politically or not, to ban all sorts of substances, including saturated fat, because obesity kills. I'm concerned when we take the position of let's control, control, control rather than letting personal responsibility reign supreme. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Further discussion on the bracket motion, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in opposition to the bracket motion. I haven't been involved at all in this debate, but I was under the impression the other day that there was going to be some sort of compromise and, to be quite honest, I'm disappointed that there isn't. I think Senator Smith has done a good job of indicating what this bill actually does. I'm comfortable with his numbers, his statistics showing that the training is actually more beneficial than the helmet. I think he's made that argument over and over again. I think many of you who know me in here understand that I don't believe government should be involved in people's lives any more than it should, and I think if somebody wants to make that decision to not ride with a helmet, I think the training is probably better off...or probably better for us as a society than forcing a person to wear the helmet. I think this is a bill that Senator Smith has worked on for a number of years, and I think he's entitled to a vote. I know earlier in the session Senator Landis had mentioned the same thing, and I would urge you to vote against the bracket motion, and I still am holding out hope that there is some sort of compromise. I had worked...or talked to Senator Jensen the other day and I had optimism that that would occur. I'm not so sure it will now.