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FLOOR DEBATE

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terms of public safety. That's an unfair characterization and I would say that I would much rather be on the road with an unhelmeted motorcyclist than a drunk driver. So that's what some of these organizations have talked about, and I think that's important to note. And Senator Byars just used the term that Smith wants to do away with helmets. Come on, folks. Nothing in LB 70 or any of the amendments proposes a ban on helmets. It enables one who is 21 years old, takes safety training, wears protective eyewear, safety training or experience, to decide for themselves whether or not to go with or without a helmet. It is my effort to put the protective eyewear in the statutes because I think that's a good public policy decision based on public safety that we can gain a lot from in terms of motorcyclists' rights, oncoming traffic drivers' rights. That's a very reasonable thing to do. Please vote down the bracket motion. If you would like to know what...what I hope to do is vote down the bracket motion, take up the next amendment that I have filed, debate that for a sufficient amount of time, and then move on from there. So I'm showing some cards, if you will. I think that is the best thing that we can do and we can come up with something that is...that's good for all of us, I believe. Not everyone is going to like it, I'll tell you that right now, but it is something that is a compromise and I appreciate those who have given me positive feedback about that. Now HHS, they don't even track the expenses due to motorcycle accidents. Now I don't think there's a shortage of workers looking for information within the Health and Human Services System, but keep that in mind. If this is such a pervasive expense to the state, wouldn't you think that Health and Human Services would track it, and at best, they came up with some numbers that I've handed out to you that didn't even meet the level that I was expecting,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...didn't even meet the level that I was expecting. Keep in mind, friends, friends all, I think...well, I won't go there. Anyway, keep in mind that anyone can still wear a helmet, even within the green copy of LB 70. And I don't think that...would Senator Byars yield to a question, for