

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

May 19, 2005

LB 70

particularly if you're looking at removing of the helmets, so I'm willing to look at that. I'm also willing to work with Senator Smith and Senator Baker, if we can come up with something acceptable and move this bill along. Like I said, I'm willing to extend that training time if we need to. I don't want to unless we need to. But we can very shortly here find out how busy those classes are, if there's a tremendous lineup for them. Willing to go one year without a helmet to look at that issue. That is something I never thought I would say before. I'm willing to do that, however. And if we can work something out here, I think we're fairly close, working with Senator Beutler also, to maybe something that would be acceptable to the whole body. And so I just would encourage you to take a look at this amendment as to what it does, and then move from there. The study is very, very important, and I'm willing to live by whatever conclusion that study comes up with. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, once again, I have to be the bad guy. I know what Senator Jensen is trying to do, because he said what he's trying to do. I've got to get my glasses, so let my time run. When I look at his proposed amendment...first of all, I'm opposed to it. If the Legislature is going to take the position that helmets ought to be worn, you cannot have a period during which people are going to be allowed to kill themselves, do all of the things that we have been told will happen if people ride without a helmet. There is no study needed for any purpose to resolve this issue. Everybody is trying to save face. It reminds me of a passage from George Bernard Shaw, where he said this scientist took a mouse and cut the mouse's tail off, then that mouse's offspring had their tails cut off, and he did this through ten generations of mice, and he finally concluded that an accidental removal of a mouse's tail will not affect the genetic makeup of the mouse so that its offspring will be born without a tail. It didn't take a study to do that. What is the study going to determine, other than what has been determined by countless studies? But let them go ahead, play in the sandbox. That's what this is about--saving face for Mr. Smith, who's on his way to Washington. Let me read