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LB 70

hope it was sent to everybody, but at least sent to me, by the Nebraska Safety Council. In addition to that, both of these communications refer to the state of Louisiana. And after the state of Louisiana repealed their motorcycle helmet law, their motorcycle fatality rate jumped 74 percent. And using the language that they use in the Nebraska Safety Council to quote, they were so appalled by this, they reinstated their helmet law this year. I think these are important facts, and I look at them as facts. I don't think these people have anything whatsoever to gain by asking motorcycle riders to wear helmets or appropriate eye protection. There's...they have nothing to gain by this. As physicians, surgeons, nurses, trauma professionals, they don't have anything to gain by this. They actually are promoting a loss of business. And so I don't see why they would distort the facts just to try to make themselves look right. But I'm willing, and I hope Senator Smith is, too. It's all Senator Jensen is asking. Let's study this for a year. Let's look at the facts. Now, I think if the other side is as open as we are, if they're open and that conclusion comes back that you should be wearing safety helmets, are they willing to also say, yes, we'll support that, let's leave the law the same, let's increase the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BYARS: ...let's increase the safety measures for riders in the state of Nebraska by requiring education? And I would hope that they would say, yes, we're amenable to that. We're willing to give, those of us who feel that this is an important safety measure, and I hope that they feel exactly the same way. So I don't see anything about Senator Jensen's amendment that I can't live with. I'm like Senator Foley. I would go back to the...get rid of everything and stay the way we are and add some education. But you know, we aren't at that point. So at the very best, you know, we ought to bracket LB 70 the way it sits, as Senator Smith and Senator Baker have said itself. But let's try to move forward. Let's try to get something positive out of this. And I think an appropriate study is where we should go. And I thank the Chair for the time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Byars. Senator