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LB 70

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Can we be a little more succinct?

SENATOR SMITH: Okay.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Because I want to go on to another point or two, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay, well, what I'm saying is that I think there was a rush to criticize...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay.

SENATOR SMITH: ...without truly going through the rationale, and that's been consistent all the way along, and that happens in this business.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay. Could we then go to the second point?

SENATOR SMITH: Okay.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Because you have clarified that for me. The second point that I wanted to discuss is that there is no baseline study in place with which to make comparisons using Nebraska data. Is that a valid criticism, do you think?

SENATOR SMITH: Well, that is why I was insistent on having more than a 30-day relaxation of the helmet law. That was the original proposal, in terms of a "compromise." I mean, that wouldn't have provided any good baseline data.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: But why should we get rid of something that, truthfully, is working, to do something that we don't know what its implications are going to be, without the study?

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Schimek, there is disagreement on whether or not the helmet law is working as it is currently...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Oh, I...

SENATOR SMITH: I realize you're comfortable with that; I'm not, and there's...