

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

May 31, 2005

LB 70

reasonable to look at an up or down vote, so that we can move on. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Chambers, your light is on next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm going to look at the number of votes on this motion. If 25 people vote against the motion, that could mean that Senator Smith has enough votes to adopt his amendment, but it doesn't mean he has enough to advance the bill. So if people are not going to vote for the bill, they shouldn't vote for this motion. What good does it do to vote for the amendment, and then have a lengthy discussion, and then not vote for the bill? However, and nonetheless, and notwithstanding all of these things, I don't know what the meaning of anybody's vote is. All I will know is the number of votes that go up on the board. I don't mind taking my opportunities to speak on this motion, because it's obvious that we're going to be on this bill for a long time this evening. It would be different, in my opinion, if Senator Smith had maintained some of the integrity that could be found in LB 70 in the green copy. Any bill can stand with some tweaking or gentle massaging in order to make it more palatable. But the main thrust of the bill should remain. Either abolish the motorcycle helmet law, or keep it. This certainly does not keep it, and by indirection, it abolishes it. Read through it if you have the stomach and the concentration, and ask yourself, if you were a law person, how you'd go about enforcing these various provisions. How would you even know what the status of an individual riding a motorcycle would be? You can see if one has eyeglasses, perhaps, but from a distance, you may not be able to see that. At any rate, I'm offering this motion and I think it ought to be adopted. If Senator Smith manages to get 33 votes against this motion, that should mean he's on easy street. But maybe there are other provisions in other bills that follow his which some people don't like, so they will help extend the discussion, and we will not get to those bills. I just don't really care one way or the other. But my first responsibility is to be here. If you do not adopt the bracket motion, the amendment that Senator Smith is offering will be discussed until somebody calls the question, and if that motion