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FLOOR DEBATE

May 31, 2005

LB 116, 594

SENATOR CUDABACK: I missed that last statement, but I'll take it that's your close. The question before the body is, shall LB 116 advance to E & R Initial? All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Have you all voted who care to on advancement of LB 116? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 42 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 116.

SENATOR CUDABACK: LB 116 advances. The next agenda item and our last agenda item is LB 594. Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 594 is a bill by Senator Kruse and others. (Read title.) Introduced on January 18, referred to the Judiciary Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM1132, Legislative Journal page 1285.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Kruse, to open on LB 594.

SENATOR KRUSE: Mr. President and members, thank you. Oh my, that was the number I've been waiting for you to read out all day. I've been looking all over for that. A little bit of a smile for the body. This is the third year for this as my priority bill and so I'm grateful for these last few minutes. If it eventually passes this week, for personal reasons I may have to leave the floor because I'm not sure I can handle that. The problems of the third year have nothing to do with the support for the bill. It's had strong support all the time from enforcement, from defense attorneys, from the public. I appreciate that support, and that's part of the personal reason that I just acknowledge in passing, that it's been 15 years for Ruth and me since our son was injured by an impaired driver; been a part of a number of bills. I think the best way to understand what's going on here is to remind you that four years ago we had an interim study on this thing to try to clear up the impaired driver problems. It was determined...and we had a tremendous turnout from that--police, prosecutors, defense attorneys and so on. It was determined at that time that the