

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

June 1, 2005

LB 70

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Chambers, there's another provision that complicates this even further. Because one allows them to be without a helmet in one instance, and another allows them to be without a helmet in another instance. And I just described the one instance. Here's the other instance. Allows an individual to operate a motorcycle without a helmet if the individual is at least 21 years of age, as opposed to 19, is equipped with eye protection, and carries proof of successful completion of a motorcycle safety course. Proof of completion of a motorcycle safety course provided by a national recognized motorcycle safety foundation shall meet the requirements. This also is in the committee amendment, or is in the agreed upon amendment. Senator, is this one of the abominations you were talking about--I believe it was--in the compromise amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Beutler, let me clarify my position on that amendment. That amendment was to be in place for two years. I had said that people who claim to be against doing away with helmets were willing to back off for two years. I said I would not, that either we ought to do it or not do it, that the amendment is neither fish nor fowl, is what you all called a compromise. And that's what I was attacking, the two-year period. Either do it or don't do it. There are provisions in the green copy that can be attacked. But if it constitutes a repealer of the motorcycle helmet law, whatever else it does, I'm in favor of that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But, Senator,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And that's what Senator Smith represented to me...

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...it doesn't repeal the motorcycle helmet law. It just says you have to meet different requirements.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I will ask Senator Smith, on my time, if in fact what he told me is true about his amendment. But when I was discussing what you all cobbled together, I made it clear that I saw that as neither fish nor fowl, because you're allowing something to happen for two years which you think shouldn't happen at all. And nobody who was with that amendment