

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

June 1, 2005

LB 70

later and say, gee whiz, if I would have just been a little more forceful, we would have saved five, six, seven lives. Every life is precious in this state. I want to make sure that they are safe. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Senator Smith, I think at this point in time I would like to give you a chance to respond to Senator Jensen's assertion with regard to the five-year-old child, and explore that further with you. Because I think it is important that we understand that one way or the other. I would yield time to Senator Smith to give a brief response.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: And Senator Jensen has spun the issue, and I'm starting to take it personally. When I hear the misinformation that comes out, in suggesting that a five-year-old does not have to wear a helmet on a motorcycle, it's absolutely ridiculous. A five-year-old on a motorcycle, if they're a passenger, they would still have to wear a helmet. But if we're going to embellish and just say anything...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator,...

SENATOR SMITH: ...to protect our cause,...thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I just wanted, basically, to hear your response. But let me explore it further with you, so we understand...hopefully, try to get a picture of where the truth is in all of this. The section that we're talking about is Section 7. Section 7 says, a person shall not operate or be a passenger without a protective helmet, unless you're exempted. A child is not exempted.

SENATOR SMITH: That is correct.