

May 15, 1975

CLERK: The bill is on General File, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Oh, it is on General File. Excuse me.

SENATOR F. LEWIS: This is the bill that we were debating before lunch. I was impressed with those that stood up and said that we need more safety with motorcycles. That was of concern to Dr. Gregory, I believe, and it moved my heart so much that I thought I would investigate what Nebraska was doing about motorcycle safety, and it would have to be secondhand information because I don't even ride in convertibles, much less on motorcycles, but I went in there and I found out, Senator Koch, and as an advocate of motorcycle safety, I would think that you would be shocked that Nebraska has never spent a red cent for motorcycle safety. So if this is why these funds are being withheld because we are not involved in safety, surely motorcycle safety pertains to more than just wearing helmets so I think, based on what Mr. Sullivan has said, Senator Sullivan, I am sorry, Mr. Sullivan has said, I think it is necessary that we establish some priorities for his department to make sure they are consistent with what he tells the legislature. He's decried helmets and motorcycle safety yet he has never made one attempt to spend any money for motorcycle safety. So I think that Mr. Sullivan needs a little consistency. I think we can add this amendment on, if the bill continues to move along, and I hope it doesn't do that. At least, we will see that we have really done something for motorcycle safety and I ask you to adopt my amendment.

PRESIDENT: Did you want to be heard on this, Senator Burbach?

SENATOR BURBACH: Mr. President, there is nothing wrong with the idea that Senator Lewis is presenting to us here. I know that it is extremely important that we use certain funds of any kind somewhere's along the line for a driver training for those who operate motorcycles but there is no bill before us and this can be taken care of in 1976. It does not need to be considered at this time. I would be hopeful we would turn this amendment down and get on with our work. We have discussed these matters and we have got about four or five or six amendments this morning and I assure you that I am going to try to do everything to recognize these bills as they are priority bills and let's move this along because there is legislation being readied for introduction next year because we have it in automobiles and certainly automobiles aren't as treacherous. But once a motorcycle has been sold, it does need some driver training. I can tell you that the college at Kearney is planning very seriously on certain driver training programs. One of them has to do with teaching those people who perform the acts necessary in motor vehicle training where there are teachers at the various schools. They are also anticipating a program in truck driving. They are anticipating, and they have the lots and the facilities there to do so and this is another one of the areas but legislation next year will provide for these services. We don't need to recognize this amendment at this time.

PRESIDENT: Senator Koch.