

April 9, 1996

LB 969

on behalf of all of those good folks in Omaha who live, because of varying circumstances, east of the line of demarcation, 45th Street, I just take this opportunity to raise the issue one last time. Thank you, Senator Hudkins. Thank you, Senator Vrtiska.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENCEL: Members of the body, I appreciate those remarks very much from you, Senator Preister. One thing I like about you is your resiliency. As far as the redundancy of having mandatory insurance and uninsured and underinsured coverage in the state of Nebraska, if you live in a border area, it's not quite so redundant. How you vote on the bill is strictly up to you, but in our area we still have lots and lots of people driving around without insurance who cross the border from Iowa.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Engel. I see no further lights. Senator Vrtiska, to close.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President. I'll just take a moment. I just want to, I guess as a final thought, remind you that the average cost, as I understand it, is about 15...the high end of it is about \$15. That may not seem like a lot of money, but when you add it up to the number of cars and some people's pocketbook that is a considerable amount of money. And, again, I think it's, it's not so much the issue except that if you want to take the chance on your own, then that ought to be your, that ought to be your, your choice. And if you end up and are damaged, then you have to accept the responsibility. I just don't care for the idea of mandating that people have to do certain things. And if you had had the calls that I've had about this, I'm sure you'd vote to put this amendment in force. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yeah, I'd raise a point of order, if I could, please.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Yes, Senator.

SPEAKER WITHEM. Yeah, I believe Senator Vrtiska has already conceded the point in his opening, but I don't believe we've had