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FLOOR DEBATE

April 3, 2002 LB 1073

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The Chair is going to rule that it...even though it is perhaps in the same area as motor vehicles, it is a substantially different subject. I would rule that the amendment is not germane. Senator Smith, you have the option of overruling the Chair if you choose to do so, but I would rule it not germane at this point.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would move to overrule the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Okay. Senator Smith, you are going to be recognized to open on your motion to overrule the Chair. Just so everyone understands the motion to overrule the Chair, you...there's the opportunity to speak once towards the motion to overrule the Chair. Senator Smith, you are recognized to open.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As I stated earlier that when we look at germaneness, certainly I looked at that. I asked some experts in the beginning and before I even decided to make the motion and got feedback that, yes, this is germane. It relates to the general set of statutes relating to rules of the road. And, as you can see, on the one-liner to the bill and LB 1073, "change provisions and penalties relating to occupant protection systems." This amendment clearly relates to occupant protection systems. I think that that is quite obvious and a straightforward approach and I think is certainly within the scope of the germaneness of this issue. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: I have a list of speakers who were...whose lights were on. I'm going to continue with those on and you can tell me if you want to speak to germaneness and the overruling of the Chair or not. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: I would just ask the body to uphold the Chair on this. This is a substantially different subject. This is my personal priority bill. I feel very strongly about child passenger safety and I...that is the issue at hand. I don't believe that this amendment is appropriate to this section of the law that deals with occupant safety--occupants of motor