

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull.

SENATOR STULL: Mr. President and Members of the Legislature. We're going to move for the suspension of rules on Tuesday and take this resolution up at that time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Stull.

CLERK: Mr. President, we have pending a motion by Senator Barnett to place LB 66 on general file notwithstanding action of the committee.

PRESIDENT: Before the Chair recognizes Senator Barnett, the Chair would like to call attention to 27 Fourth Graders and 3 mothers from Peter Sarpy School in Bellevue, Nebraska. They're from Senator Frank Lewis' district and they're up there in the South Balcony, Senator Lewis, in case you care to wander up there after a while. Their instructor is Mrs. Terry Woodman and we're delighted to have them today as visitors to the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. We hope you enjoy your visit to the Capitol Building and to the only Unicameral in the United States. Now--

CLERK: Mr. President, we have a reference committee report (read).

PRESIDENT: Thank you. We're delighted to have that also. Back to Senator Barnett now for his motion on LB 66. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President and Members of the Legislature. I'd move to have LB 66 brought to general file notwithstanding the action of the committee. The purpose of LB 66 was explained, I thought in the committee meeting. I can't explain why the committee turned it down. There was only one person opposed to it. There were several people that wanted the bill. What it does is sets up the program to find out exactly what is one of the problems in our fatalities in the State of Nebraska. It's another highway safety program. I sent you around some literature this morning on LB 66 that explained how the bill read as amended and also a copy of an article that was taken out of the Motor Club News Magazine which tells about several of the states that have already introduced the same type of legislation. The people that asked for this legislation; I might name them off just to give you some idea who's interested in this type of in depth investigation into fatalities: Nebraska Medical Society, Nebraska Association of County Attorneys, City of Lincoln, the Department of Health, Nebraska Highway Safety Council, Nebraska Women for Highway Safety, Accident Records to the Department of Roads, Lincoln Municipal Judges, Nebraska Peace Officers Association. People from all over the state wrote in support of this bill. It was rather hard to understand why the committee chose to knock it down. One main thing that this will tell us is that, as you all read and hear on television, everywhere else, that 50% of our accidents are alcohol-related. There is some question as to whether that 50% figure is correct. Some people believe, in this state, that the figure is more like 15 or 20%; that there are other causes that should be exploited and other causes that should be taken into consideration and new efforts made for highway safety. Also, this bill includes drugs. Now it's possible that somebody has told you that they cannot test for drugs at this time. It is possible there is a way that this can be done. If, for instance, in a fatality, you find drugs scattered throughout the automobile, whether the person was taking them and had them in their pocket or purse or whatever at the time, the lab technicians can test blood for the sample of this type of drug to see if this affected them. It's unknown, as I have stated before, whether there is