

LB 66

April 5, 1973

SENATOR CARSTENS: Well it does to me, in this respect Senator Barnett, do you think in your wisdom, and in the wisdom of the people that you have been working with in this area that Nebraska is significantly different then other states in the nation?

SENATOR BARNETT: I think Nebraska is significantly different in anything they do.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Well I would have to beg to disagree with you in this particular area, Senator Barnett, and I am not speaking against the program in any way, shape or form, but I think that we do have to have something down the road, not the complete answer, because I don't think anyone, has the complete answer.

SENATOR BARNETT: I agree with you.

SENATOR CARSTENS: But we do have to have some partial answers, and some of the intent that is in the minds of the people that are trying to help and of which we should be a part, and I'm sure that we are, in a sense of the word, but we need something to go with --

SENATOR BARNETT: I've tried to give it to you Cal, I've tried to give them the best of my ability, I've tried to give you the idea of whether it, we've got to consider, some day we've got to know when a man is in a fatality somebody breathes and smells alcohol whether he was drunk, whether he had one drink, whether it was his speed, whether it was highway construction, whether it was weather conditions, whether it was automobile failure, this is only one part, and I can't give you any other answers then that.

SENATOR CARSTENS: One more question and then I'll quit Mr. President. In the other areas, of highway construction, speed, and so forth, are there statistics available in these areas that can be used for corrective measures, Senator Barnett?

SENATOR BARNETT: I'm sorry, I was going over to my desk, --

SENATOR CARSTENS: In the other areas to which you refer, highway construction, speed, and these areas, are there statistics available here that are constructive to the problem of highway fatalities?

SENATOR BARNETT: Yes, we have highway speed statistics, we've talked to the engineers in the highway department, and they are slowly but surely trying to make progress in this area, that speeding is probably one area where I caught more criticism last summer when I said speeders are creating as many problems in our opinion through our records of fatalities, then through alcohol and I think that's when Senator Carstens asked me at that time, well what causes a speeder, it is drinking or vice versa, so we do have some records that we are positive of, and we need some more of this type.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: We need all the tools possible to cope with a problem which is increasing in the state of Nebraska. We do not presently have all the tools which could be available and LB 66 could be an additional tool for the use of just statistical purposes now, this does not mean this very use of statistics could not be the basis for future planings, without accurate information you cannot plan programs which will be as beneficial