

SENATOR KAHLE: Yes. Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Wesely if I could. I assume that you are only talking about the designated crosswalk areas where they are marked. You are not talking about all streets, are you?

SENATOR WESELY: Well I'll tell you, Senator Kahle, I looked into that matter and actually as defined crosswalk would apply not only to designated but non-designated. There are, if you would be interested there is a way in which we could amend the bill and have it only for designated crosswalks and I would not be opposed to that amendment.

SENATOR KAHLE: I guess what I am concerned about is the other charge would be jaywalking. I think that we should specify what you are talking about. Now in California where they have a very stiff pedestrian law or driver law regarding pedestrians if you step off the curb in a designated area, of course everyone comes to a screeching halt. You walk through like the King of Siam. But, I wouldn't be in favor of this bill if it meant that I could just walk out here in front of the Capitol not in the designated walk and everybody would have to stop for me. I think that would be jaywalking then. So, that is the only objection that I would have. I think that we should clarify that.

SENATOR WESELY: Can I specify what crosswalk means? They have two definitions there is a Section A and a Section B that deals with crosswalk. One section says designated with markings on the street or with signs. That is the kind that I think that you are probably talking about. Maybe. The other kind is a crosswalk when you have a sidewalk and it comes up to the street and there may be no markings or signs, but naturally you go across the street and there is another sidewalk, that would be a crosswalk marked or not marked. So, crosswalk is defined. It only applies to intersections and where there is a sidewalk leading on to another sidewalk.

SENATOR KAHLE: Also you are not talking about where there is a traffic apparatus or a signal, are you?

SENATOR WESELY: Absolutely. This does not apply to any intersection where there is any sort of light whatsoever. Also, there are stiff penalties in other sections of the law that say if you cross between crosswalks or where there is a light then you are stiffly fined. Also there is a provision if you look in the bill, if you go across the street and did not pay attention to the cars, then you are also held responsible. So you have to keep in mind your responsibilities as a pedestrian.