

Douglas County the engineer estimated that the costs were approximately thirty some thousand and that is primarily in striping and marking roads, that studded snow tires tear up the markings on the road and this creates a safety problem, because, as you know, with bad visibility or if it is raining or those kinds of situations, if you do not have the markings on the side of the road, it is very difficult for a person to get oriented and so forth, and the estimates are that the marking that is tore up each and every year has to be repainted and that adds significantly to the cost of studded...of the cost of studded snow tires. Now one of the issues that has to be brought up also in this issue is the cost to other subdivisions of government. The city of Omaha estimated it is between a million and a million two hundred thousand dollars in damage or maintenance each and every year due to studded snow tires, and we have for the last two days offered an opportunity for people to see a film by the Federal Highway Administration on the use of studded snow tires and that film basically shows that there is no net safety benefit to the use of studded snow tires. Now I have some information that I will be distributing to members of this body showing when studded snow tires are a benefit, and then I will talk more in response to questions or points that people bring up in regards to how studded snow tires are actually a net safety hazard as opposed to a benefit, and that based on the safety issue alone studded snow tires should be banned. With that I will let some others who are in favor or opposed talk and I will try to turn on my light and try to rebut half-way through the debate.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, now we have a series of amendments, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Haberman first moves to amend and his amendments are found on page 287 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and fellow colleagues, I feel again...the amendment says that the counties shall decide whether they wish to ban studded tires or not. In western Nebraska the ranchers and the farmers and the people that live in the small towns, we need studded tires. If it is a problem in the cities, then let the counties of those cities decide it and let the counties where they don't think it is a problem decide it. Let's leave it up to county option. When this rancher and farmer gets in his studded tired vehicle and comes to the city, if they have banned studded tires, he