

person and there are people out there with extreme bitterness against the state patrol and other police agencies because they know they were not speeding. They got the ticket. They went to a lawyer and the lawyer told them that it would be prohibitive based on the amount of the fine that they would have to pay to hire a lawyer to fight the ticket so plead guilty, though you know you are innocent, or they send them to me. I get letters from your constituents when they get a ticket and they feel they were unjustly ticketed and I help them. It is regrettable and it is a hard job but that is what my responsibility is, not because I am a member of this Legislature but because I have a personal principle in me that somebody ought not be punished when they have not done something wrong and it seems to me that should mean something to the conservatives and the others in here who laud obedience to the law to such a great extent. The collecting of traffic tickets and the money from them should not mean that much to the state patrol or even to this body. The thing which should be important is highway safety. The greatest deterrent to speeding is not the use of radar, but the presence, the visible presence of the marked cruiser. California writes 14% of all the traffic tickets in the country and they are forbidden to use radar on the highways of California. Now put that in your pipe and smoke it. So you sit up here and you let a person tell you that you ought to vote against what the courts require anyway because "I am concerned that what Senator Chambers is doing here is...whatever concerned him. And if it is necessary to convict a few innocent people, well them's the breaks. Sure I'm a lawyer, sure I took an oath, sure I believe in ethics, sure I believe people are innocent until proved guilty but when it comes to a traffic ticket that is so insignificant, go on and let the innocent be thrown in with the guilty." Then here stands a person on the floor of the Legislature who erroneously, I emphasize "erroneously", in the minds of most people on the floor of the Legislature and in this state epitomizes the reckless disregard of the law, the scofflaw, the one who speeds all the time up and down the highways. I do exceed the speed limit sometimes but not all the time. And to exceed the speed limit on the interstate is not to drive recklessly because it was designed for seventy-five miles an hour. Remember that and keep that straight. But the one that you say is the scofflaw cannot be convicted. Why? Because you have poorly trained state troopers. That is the problem and you are encouraging them to remain inept and incompetent. Do you know who was against me in my latest victory down in Plattsburgh? The vice president of the company who claims to have helped design the principle of mobile radar, their number one engineer who drew the designs, he says, for the radar.