

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has determined that air bags provide greater safety than safety belts in many instances. The Legislature finds further that pressure from the American automobile manufacturers has been the driving force behind this legislation. Were it not for such pressure, this legislation would not be enacted." There have been years during which we've heard people discuss the number of fatalities and serious accidents that occur, serious in terms of the injuries caused to the occupants of the vehicles or those affected by the accident, yet nobody in this Legislature has even considered bringing a bill requiring mandatory use of seat belts. When did the issue become an issue period? When the discussion of air bags and other passive restraints being required to be placed in new vehicles loomed on the horizon. When that prospect came into existence then you saw the American automobile manufacturers getting together and talking to the Reagan administration and they got to my friend Lizzie and she said, if you can get through your pressure and your lobbyist enough of those pinhead legislatures out there to put two-thirds of the American populous under mandatory seat belt laws, we'll give you a break and you won't have to put these devices in the car. You might can cut the price that you'll charge these cars even though you cut safety a pace as you got me to cut safety by reducing the amount of impact a bumper can withstand. We'll do that and we won't require any of these kind of rules and regulations to go into effect until 1990. You have until September 1, 1989, to drag two-thirds of the American population under a mandatory seat belt law. Then the following year we are going to mandate that new cars have these passive restraints anyway and we will then be able to mock those pinhead legislatures composed in some instances of pinhead legislators. Who in this body can say that we would seriously consider this bill were it not for the pressure? This amendment that I am offering will at least put truth into the bill. It will at least let the public in Nebraska understand why this Legislature in a state which is supposed to be conservative, which landslid Ronald Reagan into office because he said he is going to take government off your back, a state which says it does not want excessive government: intrusion into the private lives of citizens. We want you to know at least why we went against all of those principles and put a ridiculous bill into law by a vote of whatever number it takes. Then maybe the Governor will be taken off the spot and can consider signing it. He can say that the collection