

increase seat belt usage from around 15 percent to 60 or 70 percent as distasteful a method as many of us feel this is, we are nonetheless going to save a great deal in terms of personal injury and death. There is really no question about that. The essential purpose of this law is to protect Nebraskans and by saving personal injury and death we're going to save all kinds of associated costs and expenses. I mean we know that the death of one wage earner for instance in an automobile accident ultimately costs the state hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost wages, in contributions to the family and insurance payments and so on and so forth. So the potential savings on an annual basis easily run into the millions of dollars if we can get a bill like this on the books. Now it may or may not be that we agree with the auto manufacturers' positions on air bags, but simply because someone, some other group of individuals out there may be supporting a bill for different reasons doesn't mean that the essential purpose and the essential effect in this bill is lost, that is that there are going to be enormous savings to Nebraskans all across the board if we can increase seat belt usage. So I'd like to attempt, if I can today, to refocus the debate on what the real issues are here, the real purpose for the bill and that is that it is going to do a great deal of public good and I would urge you all to recognize that and as Senator Morehead and Senator Beutler have, I would urge you to reject Senator Chambers' amendment because it really doesn't belong in the statutes and because it's unfair in the essential statement that it makes. Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DECAMP: Question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called for and I'll put it to you. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall the debate cease? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion is, shall the debate cease on the motion before you which is that of Senator Chambers to return the bill to Select File for a specific amendment. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion prevails and before we go into the closing on this, I have a liturgical announcement to make