

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, I rise to oppose this resolution offered by my good friend Senator Schmit. I will remind the body that some of those of us who are not the greatest lovers of LB 496 is the one that I think brought this to the attention of the body, and I regret that, the last time it was up because I think it was very humorous. I think if you stop to think about it, it is really funny that the people who are promoting this bill, the new car dealers in this state, were actually putting themselves out of business with this bill in its current form. I was looking forward to going to Kansas or Iowa or somewhere and buying cars. You know it is not that far to Kansas from where I live. It would be kind of easy to drive down there to Kansas and buy a car and a pickup and then I wouldn't have to worry about LB 496. And yet the new car dealers, their association with their, I assume, smart legal minds were writing letters to all of us and had people calling all of us telling us how wonderful LB 496 was. You know they about had me convinced when I really read the bill in its current form, I was about ready to vote for it. But if we adopt this amendment, if we bring the bill back to adopt the amendment, then I am afraid I am not going to be able to vote for the bill. It is really putting the bill in a situation that I think underscores where the real purpose of this legislation is coming from, and that is the New Car Dealers Association wanted to have the bill, not necessarily because they are concerned about safety, but because they are concerned about what they might have to provide in their automobiles in the future, i.e. air bags or some other state of the art safety equipment. I would urge you to not adopt this amendment because the bill in its current form, if Senator Labedz is right, and if it passes, and if the Governor signs it, at least it is going to have some really suspect parts of it and some of us will be able to figure out a way, those of you in Omaha can go across the river and buy your automobiles, or all those poor folks who are going to be driving up and down the interstate this next summer are not going to be subjected to the unworkable, unenforceable parts of LB 496. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion? Senator Higgins, do you wish to speak?

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just can't