

driving can come over here and get a license and start driving right away. So this strengthening provision closes a loophole by saying that you can't qualify for a driver's license in Nebraska if a license granted in another state is still undergoing a period of suspension. So, you see this bill strengthens the law in some respects. It softens the law in other respects. It is intended to plug loopholes. It is intended to generally make the drunk driving law work better so we can continue on the course of lives saved and injuries saved and property damage saved that we have done so well in pursuing the last four years as the statistics that I distributed to you earlier today show. The bill came out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously and I would ask that it be advanced today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the body, I will not take too much time, but I do support the bill. I feel that if a judge has a little more discretion which is proper and I really like the position of a 10-year term of taking their license away. I had a young man in my area that his license was taken away for life. I tell you his parents were very unhappy and, of course, it was a good lesson to that boy but I think this is a lesson that he is going to know that he doesn't have to drink and he is already correcting himself. Now, that means that he isn't going to get a license for life. Well, I feel that he should have a chance because when he gets 25, 30 years old he should be able to drive his car. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, please.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I have to rise and oppose this bill. You know the news media is going to say, Marge Higgins is for drunk driving, which is not true. But the bill says people would be required to serve their sentence of imprisonment on consecutive days. So if a man or a woman got 30 days, instead of allowing them to serve that time on their days off, whether they be weekends or middle of the week, if they have to do 30 days or 60 days, then they are probably going to lose their job and when they lose their job they lose their income and then they get behind in all their payments. And then perhaps we have the family applying for social assistance. So who is going to pay in the long run? The taxpayers by forcing them to serve