

January 17, 1986 LB 437

CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: They are adopted. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Mr. President, members of the body, LB 437 is a companion bill to the last dealing with safety along the roads. It is designed...similar sort of factor to help the safety of the people working on the roads. There has been some problems with trucks following too close, restricting vision. Accidents have been caused. What this bill does is it puts into statute a following requirement of trucks following one another so that they can't bunch up too closely. As I think I...as I remember the bill, it was we used to have a requirement similar to this, I think, in the statute and it inadvertently got repealed a few years ago when we were doing some change in statute. So that is what this bill does and I would urge you to advance the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Senator Sieck, please.

SENATOR SIECK: Yes. Mr. President and members of the body, I have a question of Senator Withem.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Now does this remain just for trucks or is this automobiles also following the snowplow, so to speak?

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay. the...as I recall, the reference to the following of snowplows is for everyone, again dealing with State Department of Roads personnel. The following distance is specifically restricted to trucks.

SENATOR SIECK: Okay, does that mean that you cannot pass that snowplow as it is going down the highway?

SENATOR WITHEM: Not as a result of the committee amendment that was just adopted. The committee amendment indicates very explicitly that...the committee amendment provides that the prohibition against following too closely shall not apply to a vehicle overtaking or passing another vehicle. So we just...(interruption).