

attached blowing a hole in the bill itself yesterday. I see no reason for a distinguishment between a truck driver, for example, and a bus driver. Local drivers are still apparently included under the bill. A state probation officer has told us that approximately 50 percent of those that get picked up for first offense DWI do have a chemical dependency problem. So you are not getting any cherry when you pick up a first offense DWI. We are talking about the truck drivers, those people that should be experts, those drivers who we consider to be experts on the road. Each individual has an option. I drive and I don't drink. I drink and I drive. I perhaps lose my license. I perhaps lose my job. Driving is a privilege. It is not a right. If you abuse it, you lose it. I guess, finally, Madam President, I would suggest to the body something that has occurred to me that I don't believe has been mentioned previous to this. What about the victim that is injured by that drunk driver? Whether it is a first offense, second offense or third offense, do we provide for those victims if they lose their job as a result of the injuries caused by a drunk driver? I would encourage the body to support Senator Chambers' amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Chronister.

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Madam Chairman, after that, I would like to call the question.

SENATOR MARSH: That will not be necessary. That was the last person. Senator Chambers, would you care to close?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I will close, Madam Chairperson. We know that the issue of alcohol consumption in society is serious. We know that the issue of driving while under the influence is serious. To be convicted of such an offense is serious. So it is an awesome thing that we are doing when we say that a person that we know has driven at least one time and been caught by a law enforcement person, taken through the judicial system and then convicted of that offense, should be allowed to drive again with the approval of the state. That is an awesome responsibility that we are assuming as a Legislature and I am prepared to assume it, but I am not prepared to assume it in a way that is elitist and unfair. The bill as it stands now is elitist and unfair. If we are going to use the power that the Legislature has to enact laws to assume such an awesome