

policy is concerned. LB 437 is one of those bills that, for all purposes, the purposes behind them probably we all ought to support. But if you read the current language of the law, and you read the changes put in in LB 437, what we are really doing is creating a separate class as far as the rules of the road are concerned for certain vehicles. Those vehicles, number one, are trailers. Any vehicle drawing a trailer or semitrailer, it is directed at trucks quite frankly. I travel the Interstate a lot. I know there are a lot of trucks out there. I know that trucks some times follow another truck too closely. A lot of reasons for that, part of which have to do with fuel economy occasionally. But nevertheless they do get too close. I recognize that. But the current law says a prudent distance should be followed. It also says that they should leave sufficient space for another like vehicle, or an overtaking vehicle to enter and occupy the space without danger. The fact of the matter is the law isn't being enforced at the current time in many instances. But we all know the circumstances right now in motor vehicle traffic safety, and that is the booklet that we have to examine to get our drivers license exams even talks about it, a two second rule. I know nobody is paying attention, but it doesn't make any difference because I think this is for the record anyhow. But the fact of the matter is we have a situation right now that under our current statutes that takes into consideration the speed that a vehicle is following, the speed that a vehicle is traveling, I should say, and the distance that you should stay behind when following, behind them. Now for the first time we are going to totally ignore the speed. We are going to say that regardless of the speed you are traveling you are going to have to stay a certain distance behind, 300 feet in the case of a semitrailer. Now the second part of this bill, the second section, is directed at Department of Roads vehicles, snowplows, et cetera. It talks about the fact that you have, if you adopt this policy, that you would have to stay behind a vehicle, a Department of Roads vehicle with flashing lights, displaying the flashing amber white light, a specific distance unless you are passing, a specific distance being 100 feet, even if that vehicle is on the shoulder. Now I would ask you how many times you've been out on the highway and you saw vehicles with flashing lights that weren't Department of Roads vehicles, i.e., a towing vehicle, or a vehicle pulling a house trailer, or perhaps a mailman, or perhaps somebody that is just simply having difficulties