

either inadequate education or a lack of helmets?

SENATOR SMITH: I wouldn't presume to make an estimation.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: You know, we have the statistics here that in 1982 we lost 27 lives, in 1983 26 lives, in 1984 25 lives. The proponents of a helmet bill indicate by comparing our statistics to those of states that have helmet bills that we lose 13 to 16 lives per year because we don't have a helmet bill. As I understand it, it's your position that with a good education program we wouldn't lose those 13 to 16 lives because people will drive more defensively and so forth?

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Hoagland, as you know, I have talked with you and you've already brought that up for about a year and a half and we've talked about the helmet law versus the education law and I had told you that I would be willing to sit down with you and work out an incentive program which we never did reach that point because of time constraints evidently, you know, as far as you were concerned. So given the fact, and I think you can see this in anything that I have sponsored or supported, I feel very strongly about education and I think that education needs to even go on past the motorcyclists. Most of the accidents that occur, occur because of carelessness or bad driving habits of the auto driver, and so that's why I would like to see an expanded program of even what we have. I look at this as a very good beginning of an educational program not only for motorcyclists, but I'd like to expand that in other ways.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: All right, now how many lives do you think are going to be saved by an improved education program?

SENATOR SMITH: Again, I would not presume to make estimates.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: You wouldn't estimate 13 to 16 lives a year like the promotorcycle helmet people are saying?

SENATOR SMITH: As I said, I don't presume. I am not a statistician and I don't make those kinds of presumptions.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Now, Senator Smith, if in spite of this bill, say we pass the bill and in spite of this bill,