

not likely to occur by which Senator Exon's bill may get waylaid or sidetracked. We would have enough time to come back and hasten a bill through and roll the limit back to 55 if that's what the Legislature chose to do. So there is no chance of federal funds being lost between now and January 15th because the speed limit still will be 55 miles an hour in Nebraska. Senator Exon has expressed every intent of offering such a bill. My office talked to his yesterday and since that conversation he has confirmed it in the newspaper. So instead of taking a long time, I will respond to any questions you may have, but there is one point I want to emphasize. The vast majority of fatal accidents do not occur on the interstate. When a case was being made for seat belts and attempts were made to amend that bill so that you didn't have to wear them in the city, statistics were developed to show that the majority of fatal accidents occurred under 40 miles an hour very close to a person's home so the interstate still remains the safest means of motor vehicular traffic in the country travel and as far as the reduction in fatal accidents, much of that is attributable to breakaway light posts, to different road guards along the highway and the construction of automobiles themselves. But the vast majority of fatal accidents has never been on the interstate system and that road was engineered for speeds of 75 miles an hour. In addition to that, people who are salespersons, those who drive trucks were encouraged to set up territories based on a speed limit of 75 miles an hour. When that speed limit was artificially and unreasonably reduced to 55 miles an hour no consideration was given to the dislocation and the problems caused in states such as Nebraska which are vast in territory and sparse in population. So I'm asking that you adopt this amendment. After that adoption, Senator Hoagland has an amendment which would allow the limit to remain at 55 through the City of Omaha and around that city. I have no objection to that amendment, but the one I'm asking you to adopt now is the one that I had discussed with you yesterday.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely. The speaking order then is Senator Warner, Haberman, Marsh, Morehead and DeCamp. Senator Wesely. May we have order in the Chamber, please. (Gavel.)

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President, this is a scenario I see happening. I see, number one, Senator Chambers' amendment getting adopted and Senator Hoagland's amendment getting adopted, the bill being advanced, the bill being passed, Senator Exon's bill being introduced. Senator Exon's bill will not pass. It will not even be close to being passed. This issue