

like we do in western Nebraska? Maybe you get on it once or twice a year to go on a vacation. You're not used to it. You don't know how to use it, but you can learn how to use it. You can drive 55. Nobody is going to make you go 70. Nobody is going to make you go 65. You don't even have to go 60, but I wonder if these senators who are opposing the 70 miles an hour do drive 55 miles an hour. I think I'll try and follow them sometime and see if they do drive that 55. So I'm ready to support putting it into place if we need it and can use it and, believe me, I'll support 70 miles an hour because it's by choice. You don't have to drive that fast. It's not by choice on seat belts and everything else. We mandated you have to do those things, but let's let the people have a choice if they want to drive that fast and give them a little bit of freedom. So I wholly support the whole issue and I ask this body to do the same thing. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The Chair asks you to hold your conversational levels down, please. (Gavel.) Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. You're not surprised to have me be opposing the amendment, but have you stopped to consider how stupid we, as a body, may look when we lose those millions of dollars that could happen because we can't get the law changed fast enough? If Congress was totally different than it usually is and actually passed the proposed piece of legislation which hasn't yet been introduced, and then it goes to the second House and rushes through, we still would have plenty of time come January. And I'll be one who would help in January if our federal government said it really would be okay in the wide open spaces. I've juggled so hard to make our tax dollars go as far as they have in our budget. I think those of you who are not Appropriations Committee members do not realize how much our state budget has been cut because we have cut and cut in the legislative process. I think it is thoughtless and inconsiderate for us to jeopardize even 50 cents that doesn't need to be jeopardized at this time. And, Senator Haberman, I've traveled about 12,000 miles on interstates, not all in Nebraska, this past year. Some of us do a fair amount of driving traffic too. Just because we're not doing it to and from the Legislature does not mean that we have not also had some experience. Why are you so intent on postponing action on other pieces of legislation? Why are you so intent on reaching for the pie in the sky? Is it because this is something that you'll use, Senator Chambers, and say you let him have this? Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.