

April 9, 1986

LB 600A

legislation to repeal this legislation if you so feel you want to pass it, if we are threatened with losing federal funds. So this gives us the option to take action and I'd ask your support.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers. Senator Hoagland is next.

Senator Chambers Mr. Chairman, I think that amendment is totally unreasonable. Senator Hannibal had mentioned pushing it farther into January and I said if somebody wanted to say the 21st of January or something like that, it wouldn't make me any difference, but it is clear that those who are opposed to the bill itself and what it is trying to do are through stratagem trying to defeat the bill. I think this is an unreasonable request, and if the amendment remains in the form that it is, I ask that you defeat it and that we go ahead and advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Let me briefly state the reason that Senator Wesely and I are offering this amendment. January 15th is the current effective date which clearly will not give the next Legislature an opportunity to deal with the issue. Even April, May or June would not give the next Legislature an opportunity to deal with it without the emergency clause. The reason we chose September 15th is so that if this Legislature next session chooses to pass legislation dealing with this issue, it would not have to have the emergency clause to go into effect before this particular provision would go into effect. We are at the end of the session right now. We have three or four days to go. We are rushed. We are under a lot of pressure. I think the cautious approach, if we want to pass this bill, is at least put a long enough fuse on it so that we will have plenty of chance next session to carefully consider the implications of this change, because it is a significant change. If Lou Lamberty were here, he would probably already have over here the figures in federal highway funds that we would lose as a result of this. If we weren't on such a rush basis, why Fred Zwonechek from the Office of Highway Safety would have figures over here estimating the number of lives that we will lose once this goes into effect. So I think discretion is the better part of valor, let's give ourselves...if we want to do this this session, let's give ourselves plenty of chance next session on due reflection to make any changes we may think are warranted. So Senator Wesely and I are offering this amendment for that purpose.