

April 9, 1986

LB 600A

All those in favor say aye. Machine vote. All those in favor vote aye, opposed...yes, okay, it is discussible. Thank you. Senator Warner, we will be glad to hear you.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I rise to oppose the advancement of the bill. You need to understand one thing that the federal statutes states, as I understand it, is that if the state is out of compliance, DOT will make no further approval of any pending contracts. Now, if you want to bring a roaring halt, if you want to run the chance of bringing a roaring halt to the road improvements, being prohibited to even have a project approval, then vote to advance the bill. Now, I may be in error but I don't think so. That is all I have to say.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Warner a question. Senator Warner, with the amendment that was adopted, how long will the speed limit be 55 miles an hour in the State of Nebraska based on the law of the State of Nebraska even if this bill takes effect?

SENATOR WARNER: As I understood the amendment, September 15, 1987.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So if Nebraska were to be out of compliance, when would that out of compliance situation arise presuming that the federal law did not change?

SENATOR WARNER: September 15, 1987.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So how are you risking funds, he said, if you are out of compliance, you have pushed the date way back to September of next year. You are not out of compliance. You are not risking anything. Senator Warner is opposed to I think raising the speed limit as is Senator Marsh and Senator Wesely. If you live in or near Lincoln, then you can understand that. They are not out there all the time. State troopers have made, when they have been interviewed and told that polls have been taken showing this many against, that many favor a 55 mile an hour speed limit, invariably the troopers say the real poll is out there on the interstate and you will see that 55 miles an hour is not the speed limit. Senator Exon has recognized what everybody knows, and there are people on this floor who will vote against this proposition who will drive faster than 55 miles an hour and who will ride with people who drive 55. I