

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

STATE OF WISCONSIN

Senate Journal

Eighty-First Regular Session

TUESDAY, March 13, 1973.

10:00

The senate met.

The senate was called to order by the President of the senate.

Prayer was offered by Reverend Charles Melcher, retired pastor from Madison.

Gentlemen of the Senate:

Seldom are we apt to think of the state constitution as a devotional exercise, but this morning I wish to use part of it as the basis for the invocation, even to the lifting from it of what I hope are familiar phrases.

Almighty God, representing the people of Wisconsin within the sphere of the Senate, we express our gratitude to Thee for our freedom. In order to secure its blessings for a more perfect government, insure domestic tranquility, and promote the general welfare, we make request this day.

As we, through legislation, seek to secure the inherent rights of persons, may we be mindful that responsibilities accompany those rights:

Since every person is free to speak, write and publish his sentiments on all subjects, we may be careful not to abridge this right, nor be blind to the possibility of its abuse.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Since it is the right of people to peacefully assemble, to consult for the common good, and to petition the government, keep us from unintentionally provoking disorder through unwise acts on our part, acts that transgress accepted standards or that run counter to common sense.

Grant us Thy wisdom this day that Thy people may be better enabled to live a quiet and peaceful life, godly and respectful in every way, since this is acceptable in Thy sight.

God bless our native land..... God save the State.

The senate remained standing and the president of the senate led the senate in the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By request of Senator Johnson, with unanimous consent, Senator J. D. Swan was granted a leave of absence for the day's session to attend a meeting of the Walworth County Board of Supervisors.

By request of Senator Risser, with unanimous consent, Senator Kendziorski was granted a leave of absence for the entire week's session.

By request of Senator Knowles, with unanimous consent, he was granted a leave of absence for the balance of today's session until 12:00 noon, Wednesday, March 14.

The roll was called and the following senators answered to their names:

Senators Bablitch, Bidwell, Chilsen, Devitt, Dorman, Flynn, Frank, Hollander, Johnson, Kasten, Keppler, Knowles, Knutson, Krueger, LaFave, LaFollette, Lorge, McKenna, Martin, Murphy, Parys, Peloquin, Petri, Risser, Roseleip, Schuele, Steinhilber, Swan, M., Theno, Thompson and Whittow -- 31.

Absent -- None.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Absent with leave -- Senators Kendziorski and Swan, J.D. -- 2.

BILLS INTRODUCED

Read first time and referred:

Senate Bill 319

Relating to the compensation of victims of crimes, granting rule-making authority and making an appropriation.

By Senators McKenna, Bablitch, Dorman and Flynn, cosponsored by Representatives Ferrall, Berger, Wahner, Jackamonis, Bolle and O'Malley.

To committee on Judiciary and Insurance.

Senate Bill 320

Relating to sales tax exemption for certain restaurant equipment and machines.

By Senators Hollander and McKenna, cosponsored by Representatives O'Malley and Sensenbrenner.

To Joint Survey Committee on Tax Exemptions.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The committee on Health, Education and Welfare reports and recommends:

Senate Bill 185

Relating to recodification of the laws pertaining to special education of children with exceptional educational needs, authorizing payment of state aids, granting rule-making authority and increasing an appropriation.

Adoption of amendment 1; Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Adoption of amendment 2; Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

Passage as amended; Ayes, 7; Noes, 0.

JAMES C. DEVITT

Chairman

By request of Senator Devitt, with unanimous consent, **Senate Bill 185** was referred to joint committee on Finance.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Senate Petition 20

A petition submitted by Dodgeville Council, Knights of Columbus, urging the State of Wisconsin to defend the lives of the unborn.

By Senator Roseleip.

Read and referred to committee on Health, Education and Welfare.

Senate Petition 21

A petition by 139 members of the Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Madison, in no uncertain terms, voicing their complete disapproval, disagreement, dissatisfaction, and dismay over the Supreme Court's decision approving of "abortion on demand", now permissible throughout the land.

By Senator Roseleip.

Read and referred to committee on Health, Education and Welfare.

Senate Petition 22

A petition signed by 45 residents of the 27th Senatorial District favoring the elimination of personal property taxes.

By Senator Bidwell.

Read and referred to joint committee on Finance.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Senate Petition 23

A petition signed by 145 residents of the 27th Senatorial District in opposition to **Assembly Bill 54**.

By Senator Bidwell.

Read and referred to committee on Governmental and Veterans' Affairs.

Senate Petition 24

A petition signed by 65 residents of the 27th Senatorial District in opposition to **Assembly Bill 54**.

By Senator Bidwell.

Read and referred to committee on Governmental and Veterans' Affairs.

Senate Petition 25

A petition in the form of a Resolution by the Kewaunee County Board opposing the closing of the Wisconsin State Reformatory at Green Bay as proposed by the Governor's Budget.

By Senator Martin.

Read and referred to joint committee on Finance.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Senate Petition 26

A petition by 1160 constituents of the State of Wisconsin favoring **Senate Bill 227**, relating to the Wisconsin State Reformatory.

By Senator Steinhilber.

Read and referred to joint committee on Finance.

State of Wisconsin
Department of State

March 13, 1973.

To The Honorable, The Senate

Gentlemen:

I have the honor to transmit to you, pursuant to s. 13.67 (2), a list of registered lobbyists for the period beginning March 6, 1973, and ending March 13, 1973.

Yours very truly

ROBERT C. ZIMMERMAN

Secretary of State

Name, Address and Occupation of Lobbyist -- Name and Address of Employer -- Subject of Legislation -- Date of Employment.

Richard Swanson, Teacher, 211 N. Carroll St., Madison--Wisconsin Federation of Teachers, 7230 W. Capitol Dr., Milwaukee--Education--March 6, 1973

William C. Carey, Fiscal Coordinator, 222 E. Wells St., Milwaukee--City of Milwaukee, 222 E. Wells St., Milwaukee--Municipal and other--March 6, 1973

Donald F. Ernest, Assistant Executive Director, 3318 W. River Drive, Mequon--Milwaukee Teachers Education Association, 3917 W. Capitol Dr., Milwaukee--Education--March 6, 1973

James R. Colter, Executive Director, 12110 W. Woodland Ave., Wauwatosa--Milwaukee Teachers Education Association, 3917 W. Capitol Dr., Milwaukee--Education--March 6, 1973

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

John P. Kaiser, Attorney, 365 S. Main Juneau--Wisconsin District Attorneys Association, 115 N. Main, Juneau--All bills affecting the office of the District Attorney--March 7, 1973

William C. Dineen, Attorney, 710 N. Plankinton Ave., Milwaukee--Village of River Hills, 7650 N. Pheasant Lane, Milwaukee--All legislation affecting the village of River Hills--March 7, 1973

John D. Winner, Attorney, 111 S. Fairchild, P.O. Box 2626, Madison--Wisconsin Broadcasters Association, Box 5545, Shorewood--Broadcasting--March 8, 1973

William J. Moylan, Community Relations Coordinator, 800 Main, Pewaukee--Waukesha County Technical Institute, District 8, 800 Main, Pewaukee--Vocational, Technical and adult--March 12, 1973

Please note the following cancellations:

Charles D. Gibson--no longer represents AFSCME, Council 24, Wisconsin State Employees, per letter dated Feb. 7, 1973

Earl W. Rezin--no longer represents The Cranmoor Cooperative Water Co, per letter dated March 7, 1973

Byron C. Crowns--no longer represents Wisconsin Cranberry Growers Association, per letter dated Feb. 28, 1973

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

State of Wisconsin
Office of the Governor

March 5, 1973.

Mr. William P. Nugent
Senate Chief Clerk
243 S., State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin

Mr. Thomas Hanson
Assembly Chief Clerk
220 W., State Capitol
Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Sirs:

I respectfully request permission to address a joint session of the State Legislature on Tuesday, March 13, 1973, at 10:30 A.M. to deliver a message on highway safety.

Sincerely,

PATRICK J. LUCEY

Governor

Upon motion of Senator Johnson, the request of the Governor was granted and the chair was asked to appoint members to escort the Governor to the Assembly Chambers.

The chair appointed Senators LaFave and Parys to escort the Governor to the Assembly Chambers.

MOTIONS

By request of Senator Bidwell, with unanimous consent, **Senate Bill 310** was withdrawn from the committee on Natural Resources and returned to the author.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

MOTIONS UNDER JOINT RULE 26

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Tom Brunner of Shawano County was recently honored by the Wisconsin Jaycees as the state's Outstanding Young Farmer; and

Whereas, Mr. Brunner well deserved this distinction because of his active leadership in introducing new farming methods and innovations on his 820 acre farm in Shawano County; and

Whereas, Tom Brunner has further distinguished himself by participating in numerous dairy, cattle and rural conservation activities; and

Whereas, he is now representing Wisconsin in the National Outstanding Young Farmer competition; now, therefore, the Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senators Chilsen and Lorge and Representative Grover, under Joint Rule 26, extend their congratulations to Tom Brunner for being selected as Wisconsin's Outstanding Young Farmer by the Jaycees and offer him their best wishes for success in the national competition.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Glenn Popple, game warden of Sheboygan County, recently retired after some 32 years of service; and

Whereas, Mr. Popple has done an excellent job during this time performing his many duties as a law enforcement officer, environmentalist and authority on pollution control; and

Whereas, he has worked tirelessly and has given of his free time generously to work with young people and sportmen's groups preaching the rules of conservation, teaching ecology and attempting to instill in them an appreciation of the outdoors; and

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Whereas, Mr. Popple was cited as conservation warden of the year in 1970, receiving the Haskell Noyes efficiency award for faithful service; now, therefore, the Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Keppler, under Joint Rule 26, commend Glenn Popple for the dedication he has shown to his important work, and for setting an excellent example to the youth of the state with his deep respect for conservation and ecology.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Mike Londerville of Merrill recently won the ninety-eight pound division championship in the WIAA State Wrestling Tournament; and

Whereas, on his way to the championship, Mike compiled an overall season record of 32-1; and

Whereas, Mike Londerville is only the second wrestler at Merrill High School to win a state title; now, therefore, the Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Krueger and Representative Donoghue, under Joint Rule 26, do hereby extend their heartiest congratulations to Mike Londerville on the occasion of his stellar victory in the state wrestling tournament.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Will G. Ballentine of Menomonie, former research director of the original Governor's Commission on Retirement Systems passed away on November 28, 1972, at the age of 82; and

Whereas, Mr. Ballentine, born in Ironton, attended the University of Wisconsin and the University of Minnesota and became a school teacher after graduation; and

Whereas, he served as superintendent of schools in Menomonie from 1920 to 1957 and in 1955 joined the retirement research committee, with which he was closely associated as a member and a consultant until the time of his death; and

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Whereas, Will Ballentine was instrumental in making major reforms both to the Wisconsin Retirement Fund and the State Teachers Fund, and many public employees across the state owe him their deep gratitude; and

Whereas, the Legislature is deeply saddened to learn of the death of Will G. Ballentine, and in recognition of his life and public service; now, therefore the Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator LaFave and Representative Baldus, under Joint Rule 26, extend their sincere condolences to Mrs. Jo Ballentine and to the family.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Dr. Harry H. Beil recently passed away in Milwaukee; and

Whereas, Dr. Beil was born in Ashland, Wisconsin, was educated in the Ashland Public Schools and graduated from the Marquette University School of Dentistry and the Loyola University School of Medicine; and

Whereas, he was a veteran of World War I and World War II and later served as a civilian doctor with the United States Air Force; and

Whereas, Harry Beil served his fellow man with interest, vigor and concern; and

Whereas, the legislature is deeply saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Beil and in recognition of his life and public service; now, therefore, The Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senators Krueger and Theno and Representative Donoghue, under Joint Rule 26, extend their most sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Harry H. Beil.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Whereas, Edward "Bub" Shaw of Black Creek, Wisconsin, recently retired as postmaster after 39 years of federal service; and

Whereas, Mr. Shaw has long been active in Black Creek civic affairs, including service as village fire chief; and

Whereas, "Bub" has during his hard-working career won the admiration, respect and gratitude of the citizens of the village; now, therefore, The Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Lorge and Representative Byers, under Joint Rule 26, commend Edward Shaw for his fine public service and offer him best wishes for continued success in the future.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Pat Denton of Rhinelander recently won the 126-pound division championship in the WIAA State Wrestling Tournament; and

Whereas, on his way to the championship, Pat compiled an overall season record of 32-0; and

Whereas, Pat's conduct both on and off the wrestling mat is a credit to his family, school and community; now, therefore, The Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Krueger and Representatives Donoghue and Kinciad, under Joint Rule 26, do hereby extend their heartiest congratulations to Pat Denton on the occasion of his victory in the state wrestling tournament.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Steve Lawinger of Mineral Point High School recently won the 155-pound division championship in the WIAA State Wrestling Tournament; and

Whereas, on his way to the championship, Steve compiled an overall season record of 31-1; and

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Whereas, Steve's conduct both on and off the wrestling mat is a credit to his family, school and community; now, therefore, Senator Roseleip and Representative Duren, under Joint Rule 26, do hereby extend their heartiest congratulations to Steve Lawinger on the occasion of his stellar victory in the state wrestling tournament.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Leonard Scruton of Nichols, Wisconsin, recently retired as postmaster after 30 years of federal service; and

Whereas, Mr. Scruton, along with his father, has served the people of Nichols by operating the post office for 50 years, a record of accomplishment that is a source of just satisfaction to the family; and

Whereas Leonard has become well-known to the citizens of the community for his friendly service throughout his hard-working career, and has won the respect and gratitude of the people; now, therefore The Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Lorge and Representative Conradt, under Joint Rule 26, commend Leonard Scruton for his fine public service and offer him best wishes for continued success in the future.

Read and adopted.

The State of Wisconsin * * * Citation by the Legislature

Know you by these presents:

Whereas, Dr. M. J. Gonstead of Beloit is retiring from active practice after 44 years of service to the people of Wisconsin; and

Whereas, Dr. Gonstead was born in Willow Lake, South Dakota, in 1902, was graduated from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa, in 1928 and shortly thereafter first opened his office in Monroe, Wisconsin; and

Whereas, from a small upstairs office, he expanded to a new clinic building and finally to a large and ultra-modern clinic in Beloit after his practice attracted international attention; and

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Whereas, in spite of the intensity of his work, Dr. Gonstead has always found time to serve in professional and community activities, being a member of the Wisconsin Chiropractic Association, industrial development committees, the Lions Club and the First Baptist Church; and

Whereas, he as worked tirelessly for his profession and leaves not only a history of service to fellowman but an inspiration for the future; now, therefore, The Members of the Wisconsin Legislature, on the motion of Senator Roseleip, under Joint Rule 26, commend Dr. M. J. Gonstead for the fine service he has rendered to the people of this state and for the work he has done for his chosen profession.

Read and adopted.

AMENDMENTS OFFERED

Senate amendment 3 to **Senate Bill 185** by Senator Devitt.

Senate amendment 2 to **Senate Bill 243** by Senators Lorge, Murphy, Johnson and Bablitch.

Upon motion of Senator Johnson the senate adjourned until 10:00 A.M. Wednesday, March 14.

10:30 A.M.

The senate proceeded in a body to the Assembly Chamber to meet in Joint Convention to receive the Governor's message.

IN ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

IN JOINT CONVENTION

The Lieutenant Governor in the chair.

The committee to await upon the Governor appeared with his excellency, the Governor, who delivered his message as follows:

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

Traffic deaths are no accident. Experts report that as many as one-half to two-thirds of all highway fatalities can be prevented -- if we are prepared to act now and act forcefully.

As a first step, we must stop viewing the yearly carnage on our highways as inevitable. Last year, ten times as many Wisconsin citizens were killed in auto accidents as were killed in homicides. Yet, although more than half of these deaths may have been preventable, we hear comparatively few voices demanding stringent laws to halt this "crime on the streets".

If the American people had approached the fights against tuberculosis and polio in the same way they approach the fight against traffic fatalities, thousands of Americans would still be dying from those diseases. It is curious that we do not view the course of disease as a product of fate -- and therefore irreversible -- but that we tend to accept traffic fatalities -- a product of man's technology -- as unavoidable. This is particularly strange in that the "cures" for a large proportion of highway fatalities are already known. All that is required is that they be applied. It is as if, after the Salk vaccine was developed, we decided not to use it because, after all, vaccinations do sting a bit.

But it would be wrong to act as if nothing has changed in our traffic safety picture in the past few years. The changes have been slow, and they have had little sting, but they are nevertheless significant. With the help of individuals such as Ralph Nader, we have begun to recognize all of the factors involved in reducing highway deaths: safe highways, safe vehicles, safe drivers, and laws which promote safe driving. The landmark National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1966 and the stringent safety standards of the interstate highway system have already saved the lives of thousands of motorists, and had an important secondary impact on state laws and standards.

In Wisconsin, during the last session of the Legislature, we passed a law doubling the penalties for driving after a license has been suspended or revoked. We added a new element to Wisconsin's unparalleled efforts in driver education: a law authorizing the administrator of the Division of Motor Vehicles to provide point reductions for persons completing traffic safety and

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

driver improvement courses. We established uniform traffic procedures to be applied throughout the state and a network of county traffic safety commissions.

One result of these changes at the national and state levels is that the rate of fatalities per 100,000 miles of vehicle travel continues to decline. In 1962, this rate was 5.67. Thirty years before that it was 13.37. Last year, it was 4.2, an all-time low.

The figures are small cause for comfort, however. In 1972 Wisconsin had the highest number of traffic fatalities in history; 1168 persons. In reviewing this shocking statistic, I found myself asking: Have we become used to records such as this that we have lost our capacity for indignation? Have these deaths, like the "body counts" in the Vietnam War, become something far away, something we can wall ourselves off from unless they personally touch our family? If so, then it is time we were graphically reminded of the meaning of some of these tragedies.

---In 1972, more Wisconsin citizens were killed on the highways than in ten years of fighting in Vietnam. From 1963-1972, 1,132 Wisconsin men were killed in Vietnam. Over that period, 11,005 persons died on Wisconsin highways.

---In 1972, almost 60,000 Wisconsin citizens were injured in traffic accidents, enough people to have completely filled Camp Randall Stadium before it was remodeled a few years ago.

---The direct economic cost of 1972 accidents in Wisconsin including property damage, wage loss, and medical expenses, was approximately \$257 million.

Behind every statistic there are individuals and families whose lives have been permanently altered by these tragedies. For example, let us look at just one holiday weekend in 1972, a weekend which for many Wisconsinites brought little Thanksgiving. From 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 22, 1972, to midnight, Sunday, November 26, 1972, 35 individuals died on Wisconsin highways, in 26 different accidents. It was the worst Thanksgiving weekend on record. If the fatalities which were recorded over this long weekend had never occurred -- or had occurred at normal levels -- Wisconsin's highway death total in 1972 would have been

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

lower than three of the previous five years -- instead of the highest in history. In all, there were 2,014 accidents reported, and 1,092 people injured.

---One-third of the drivers involved in the 26 fatal accidents were age 21 or under. Forty-three percent of those killed were age 21 or younger.

---The fatal accidents were clustered in six areas of the state: An examination of the order in which they took place reveals the impact of hazardous road conditions in a number of cases. ---Three small children and seven persons over the age of 65 were included among the victims. Fourteen of those killed were females, and 21 males.

Even these statistics leave out much. They don't tell us about:

---An eighteen-year-old driving alone at one in the morning who ran off a county road into a tree.

---A collision between two drivers, both speeding convictions in the past year.

---A young woman, driving without her seat belt on, who lost control on a patch of ice, was thrown out of her car and killed.

---A young man and his girl, whose trip to Chicago ended in her death.

---Two teenagers, who left 100 feet of skidmarks on the pavement, six cedar trees knocked down, a vehicle wrapped around a tree so completely that the front and rear bumpers were interlocked -and two families in mourning.

---A nine-year-old girl was killed when her family's car was involved in a collision with a truck whose driver had a record of 11 convictions and two accidents in the last four years.

---An elderly man, driving an old car, whose brakes failed at a stop sign, and ran broadside into another car, killing a passenger.

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

---Three youths, including an exchange student, returning from a birthday party for one of them, killed in a collision at an intersection.

---A man alone in his car at 2:37 in the morning who drove off a straight section of the road into a tree.

Alcohol was definitely involved in 31 percent of the fatal accidents on Thanksgiving weekend, and was probably a part in 11 percent more. In those mortality cases where alcohol was tested for and found, blood alcohol content ranged from .036 to .289. For a 180 pound person this is the equivalent of from two to fourteen drinks in the hour before death.

Only 5 of the 33 victims who were either passengers or drivers of cars were wearing seat belts.

The tragedy of this holiday weekend is repeated daily on our highways. The Division of Health reports that 60 percent of the 441 drivers killed in 1972 traffic accidents and given blood alcohol tests had some alcohol in their blood, and 36 percent were at or above the level of .15. The experience of Sweden demonstrates that with stringent laws, the number of highway fatalities traceable to alcohol and other drugs can be cut from 50 to 60 percent to 10 percent. How much longer can we afford the luxury of drunk driving laws that do not sting.

It is often said that if an individual doesn't wear a seat belt, the only person he hurts is himself. This is absurd. We all pay a price for the negligence of non-seat-belt wearers, in higher insurance rates, and over-taxed medical facilities. As passengers, our lives are endangered by a non-seat-belt wearing driver. And many a driver's life has been ruined because a passenger in his car, or the occupant of an automobile he bumps into, is not wearing a seat belt and is killed or severely injured, where otherwise there would have been no injuries at all.

In Australia, where seat belt usage was recently made mandatory, the number of fatalities dropped 20 percent in the first year. A study by the Ohio State Patrol reports that the probability of death in an accident is 4.06 times as great when seat belts are not worn. If one hundred passengers died in a plane crash because they were not required to fasten their seat belts, we would consider

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

it an outrage. How much longer can we tolerate two, three, or four hundred persons dying on our highways every year for the same reason?

In the Vietnam War, we have learned that thousands of lives can be saved with proper emergency medical service. A 1969 study indicated that 18 percent of the victims of traffic accidents would not have died if adequate assistance had been immediately available. How much longer can we allow accident victims to depend on an unplanned, unregulated, and irregularly trained network of emergency medical service providers?

Last year there were more bicycles sold in America than automobiles for the first time since the turn of the century. Not surprisingly, the number of bicycle fatalities in Wisconsin increased by 33 percent. How much higher will this figure have to go before we start incorporating bicycles into our highway plans, and mandate highway safety standards for those vehicles?

These are only some of the highway safety concerns which I feel we must address in 1973. Specifically, I recommend that the State of Wisconsin:

- 1) Establish a blood alcohol level of .10 as prima facie evidence of intoxication. (A537, S95)
- 2) Establish a blood alcohol level of .15 as conclusive evidence of intoxication. (A537, S95)
- 3) Require a mandatory two-day jail sentence for a first drunk driving conviction. (A539)
- 4) Establish provisions for pre-arrest breath screening of any driver apprehended at the scene of an accident or in violation of highway laws. (A540)
- 5) Require a blood test for alcohol content of any surviving driver of a motor vehicle accident involving death or serious injury. (A429)

JOURNAL OF THE SENATE (March 13, 1973)

- 6) Mandate adequate emergency medical services for accident victims, through licensing of ambulance attendants and services and development of comprehensive local emergency medical plans. (A538)
- 7) Require that the use of seat belts be mandatory. (A366)
- 8) Require that all bicycles have surfaces and pedals treated with a permanent white reflecting material visible up to a distance of 500 feet at night. (A176)
- 9) Require that safety equipment specified by federal law for newly manufactured vehicles remain in those vehicles. (A162)
- 10) Prohibit the disconnection of any safety warning device which indicates that seat belts or shoulder harnesses are not properly fastened. (S163)

All of these measures -- many of which originated with individual members of the Senate and the Assembly -- are currently before the Legislature. I cannot urge their passage too strongly. The pace of highway fatalities in Wisconsin this year is already ahead of that of last year. Many of these traffic deaths are not accident -- they are a crime. And they demand strong preventative measures. If we act immediately, we may be able to slow this traffic pace, and give Wisconsin its first year of less than 1,000 highway deaths in a decade.

But such action will not be easy. Tough laws on drunk driving and seat belt usage will save hundreds of lives, but like a vaccination, they will also sting. And powerful interest groups will be opposed to their enactment. There are a number of individuals here today who made up a different kind of interest group -- their families have been personally touched by tragedies on Wisconsin highways. I hope that in the course of the day you will have the opportunity to talk with some of these people. In the final analysis, it is they, more than any charts, any statistics, or any studies, who are the best argument for us to act forcefully now to reduce the number of highway fatalities in Wisconsin.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Senator Kasten introduced 40 students of Brown Deer High School, and their teacher Mr. Scamfer, Brown Deer, Wisconsin.

Senator Devitt introduced the 7th graders of Greendale Intermediate School with instructors Mr. Gooding and Mrs. Carlson, Greendale, Wisconsin.

Senator Hollander introduced Mr. Arlington and a number of students from Sabish Junior High School, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin.

Senator Martin introduced Mrs. Lawrence Fischer, Mrs. Ronald Zenke, Mrs. Wilbert Woelfel, and Mrs. Oliver Christophersen, Valders, Wisconsin.