

March 22, 1976

SENATOR KREMER: I say this, Senator Barnett, because I have always felt that the person that allows himself to get into this condition ought to assume some responsibility of being brought back into society.

SENATOR BARNETT: Then he will by paying more tax on his drink.

SENATOR KREMER: I know but if I drink I have got to help pay for it, too.

SENATOR BARNETT: Oh, I didn't know that you did.

SENATOR KREMER: No, but I may start one of these days.

SENATOR BARNETT: I can't answer that question.

SENATOR KREMER: If I stick around here long enough, I will have to.

PRESIDENT: Senator Burbach.

SENATOR BURBACH: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, here is a bill that has been killed, been vetoed by the Governor. I don't know if there is one on General File someplace like it. I am sure that this is going to kill LB 871. LB 871 is only about \$11,000 new money for alcohol treatment out of the state general fund but it is going to revamp the monies between the three reservations. There are possibly seventy-two or seventy-three thousand dollars involved in lieu of tax that we have had for several years and here we are going to come out and be very detrimental to one of the reservations, to one of the counties. If this bill fails, and I am sure that it will, is this going to be the end of LB 871. In LB 871 with the smaller number of acres in Knox County and the longer distance, more closely confined in the town of Santee, very few live out in the rural areas, and here we have an opportunity to extend from seven thousand or thereabouts to twenty-four or twenty-five thousand. Now this is extremely important for Knox County and I know, in my own mind, if we adopt this amendment, and I hope we don't, if we adopt this amendment, come in through the back door, LB 871 will die on Final Reading and I cannot stand for that so I would be hopeful that we would not accept the amendment as proposed.

PRESIDENT: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: A question of Senator Barnett. Senator, in Committee, my principal objection to the concept of the bill totally was the additional specified tax on alcohol and I still have that objection and I inquired at the time of the distillers people of what we are presently taxing a quart of alcohol. Now if this had been before St. Patrick's Day, you'd have a fight on your hands, but right now, the price of a gallon of alcohol is 55% tax. That goes to our general fund now. To further burden the specific project, of course, is simply a cop out on the part of the Legislature. We