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LB 267

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. Naturally, I would like to see the bill stay the same as it is. It's a good bill. It's something that needs to be done. Right now, if you want to find out how...anything about the establishment of the liquor laws and so on, you have to go back and do research to find out what you have to do. Right now, the Liquor Control Commission uses the 1984 law, the retail liquor license procedure, because that was the last place the law was declared...that law was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. And if you look at the statutes concerning the retail license application, you will see a note underneath them indicating that they've been declared unconstitutional. And it doesn't say how to find the current law. If you want to find the current law, you either have to call the Liquor Control Commission and ask them to send you a copy of the law book, or find a copy of 1984 liquor laws in the law library. The original LB 267 would let attorneys and other people interested in how to do retail liquor license applications go right to the statute book and read it. This is the original bill. I'm not talking about Senator Landis's amendment. But it is better, and we discussed this the last couple of days, trying to find a solution to the problem here. The problem not only...in my estimation is not only the retailers. We need to educate young people not to try to...not try to procure alcohol. That's something that nobody wants. The retailers don't want this either. They don't want to sell to minors. I'm talking about good retailers. There's always renegades, and I realize that, and there is in any business. But no retailer intentionally, in my opinion, goes out and wants to sell to a minor. Nobody does. I was young once. I realized what...you know, we used to find some way to get a couple bottles of beer. But the thing...what we would do with it, we'd go out in the country about ten miles and sit there and shake all the while we drank it, and thought we really pulled off a big deal. Young people anymore are really not afraid of the law. They'll sit right on the main streets in the small towns, and I suppose they do in the city too. So I would like to see a little...maybe we can address this again next year. I would like to see a little more obligation put on the minors who procure the alcohol. In any means, I think we need to send a message on...we're sending a message to the retailers now; I think we need to send a message