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FLOOR DEBATE

March 14, 2001 LB 114

Senator Quandahl's amendment.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is agreed to. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Quandahl, I had an amendment you filed, Senator, AM0971; but I have a note you want to withdraw that.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Without objection, it is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the committee amendments. (FA104, Legislative Journal page 1059.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this amendment is on your gadget if you're interested in seeing it. If you have on your desk the amendment that Senator Quandahl handed out to you which replaces the bill and which was just adopted, on page 10 you will find the following language near the top of the page, "or the premises of a religious organization on which premises alcoholic liquor is used for religious purposes." My amendment is not to renew the arguments that I was making the other day because this language takes care of that. But Senator Janssen and his staff were reviewing that language and it seems a little broad, not necessarily that it would work this way, but there's a possibility that people could be on a parking lot of a church or some religious operation consuming alcohol and say it puts them within this language. What I want to be sure of when we grant this religious exemption is that we're talking about a house of worship so that we won't use the term "religious organization" because that could be some of these groups that are attached to churches but they really are not religious in terms of what they do. So here is the language that I'm offering. And if you find any problems with it, I want you to let me know. I would strike the language in Senator Quandahl's amendment and put the following: "or on the premises of a place of religious worship on which premises, alcoholic liquor is consumed as part of a religious rite, ritual, or ceremony." That is as tight as I know how to make it