

April 10, 1973

SENATOR NORE: Yes, I think probably for Senator Barnett's information, maybe it would be more economical in his thinking to flouridate the bull, just have one animal.

PRESIDENT: Alright, the question is shall we, we have before the body the Carsten amendment to, his amendment all those in favor of that amendment to ~~delete~~ the word milk, please say aye, those opposed say no. So ordered, the ayes have it, and the word is deleted. Now we are back to Senator Carsten's amendment as amended, now go ahead Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTENS: Now Mr. President, I would like to speak on this amendment before it get's attacked, because I obviously, already is a feeling that this is a factitious effort or an effort if not factitious to kill the bill, neither which is true. There has been considerable discussion on many areas of the United States, and other states have considered the possibility of flouridating especially soft drinks. Now if we are honest in an effort to flouridate, provide better teeth for children, if this is an honest effort, and it follows that it is enough just to flouridate water because water is not a staple diet, liquid diet for children to day. Now this is true in our own family, it is true in every family in this country, all one has to do is to go to the super markets or go to the places where soft drinks are in vending machines and every other place, and it is safe to say that most children of the age where they would be beneficially effected by flouridated water, in, or take in, the primary, the liquid, the greater portion of liquid that they use in the form of soft drinks. It might even be added that many of them don't even believe in washing in flouridated water any more, but nevertheless this is not a joke, this is serious business, and if we are going to attack and improve the teeth of children we ought to put it where it will do some good, or where it will do the most good, because not only have soft drinks, are soft drinks consumed in large quantities, but also, they have sugar, which is another very harmful substance, or a promoter of bad teeth in children, decay in teeth. The, and I'm sure the dentists know what they are talking about, now this is not an effort to kill the bill because I feel it is much more important to flouridate such things as soft drinks, for example, then to flouridate water which is primarily flushed down the toilet or flushed down the sewers in car washing or placed on gardens and lawn watering and so on, and it is probably not any more costly, not as improbable, not any more impossible, then flouridating water. I was amazed this morning to read a circular received from Grand Island, to see the problem involved in flouridating the water in Grand Island, just a technical problem, not forgetting about whether it's good or bad, the technical problem in Grand Island of flouridating the water system, is very difficult, and I'm sure this is true in other cities and other communities, and I'm not opposed to flouridation, I'm not opposed to 449, but I do believe that if this is to mean anything, and is to make any sense, to make any honest effort, as a matter of fact I would question, I would question whether those who support flouridation in water alone, are doing anybody any service if they do not also flouridate those, especially soft drinks, which are the, in my own judgement, at least a principle source of liquid intake on the part of smaller children. So I would urge you to adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, then Senator Marsh, speaking now on the straight Carstens amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the legislature, I'm opposed to the amendment, I think there is some practical considerations that we would have to look at in adopting an amendment like this. If you are going to require the flouridation