

February 6, 1974

acceptable to the introducer of the bill. I move for the acceptance of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: I move for the acceptance of this amendment, also.

PRESIDENT: Senator Frank Lewis. A question has been called for on the amendment. Will you read the amendment again Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: The amendment on page 2, line 3, insert "hospital patient room or patient area," after "any"

PRESIDENT: We will take a voice vote. Those in favor say aye, those opposed no. The amendment carries.

CLERK: There are no more amendments Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker, LB 600 provides that in certain public places smoking will be prohibited. The areas include elevators, indoor theaters, libraries, art museums, concert halls, and busses. And with the amendment that was just adopted, certain areas in hospitals are also included. Except where an area is designated as a no smoking belt. This would allow for any of these areas, with the possible exception of elevators, be designated as a smoking area. Two-thirds of the adult population are non-smokers. I've received over two hundred letters which I would be glad to share with anyone who would care to look for them. Of this over two hundred only two have been opposed to this particular type of legislation. The only opposition in the public hearing was the lobbyists for the tobacco distributors and I feel that this was probably an error on their part because I'm not trying to stop the smoking. Simply to provide some protection for the two-thirds of the adults nonsmoking population. This carefully allows areas to be designated for smokers. While still protecting the rights of the nonsmokers since this makes up the large two-thirds majority. For the benefit of some of the other Senators in this room, I would like to tell you where my mail regarding support for this legislation has arrived from. Ainsworth, Ashland, Beaver City, Beaver Crossing, Bellevue, Blue Springs, Chambers, Columbus, DeWitt, Elmwood, Gothenburg, Hastings, Holdrege, Cooper, Kearney, Lexington, Lincoln, McCook, Norfolk, North Platte, Omaha, Schuyler, Valentine, West Point, Western and Wisner. In a very recent poll taken a large percentage of the smoking and non-smoking population of adults favor restriction s in certain public places as enumerated. I move for the advancement of LB 600.

CLERK: Motion on the desk Mr. President. I move to amend line 13, to read not less than \$100 or more than \$500.00. (Signed) Senator Frank Lewis.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lewis:

SENATOR LEWIS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Committee. At the public hearing I stated that I thought that local ordinances could take care of local problems. If we are going to bring this bill to the Legislature. Let's don't make a farce of it. If we are going to have that kind of concern, then let's carry a penalty with it commensurable with the State Law. I think we