

February 19, 1974

PRESIDENT: Senator Proud, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR PROUD: Yes.

SENATOR KELLY: Senator Proud, I'm assuming that you want to bring this back to Select File to include or improve the bill so that you can continue your support of it. Is that assumption correct?

SENATOR PROUD: That is absolutely correct. Under the present wording I don't know whether I can support it or not. But I certainly will support it if my amendment is put on. I think.... I doubt that it will be.

PRESIDENT: Now, Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR STAHMER: Mr. President, I would like to support the bill in its current form. I have not heard any complaints from hospital administrators and then the two or three I did talk to up in Omaha suggested that it would be beneficial to the patient's health. I think they're not complaining and I think the health professionals want it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: It just seems to me that if I was going to visit a hospital, I would obviously be there because I was trying to do something for the patient. If I went in the room smoking and he said, Carpenter, why don't you quit it, I'd sure quit it. Now, you're trying to write in the law again something that's completely objectionable and obnoxious. Now, I'm not going to vote to move it back because I want it to be passed in its worst form. I want people to be disturbed and I want to see who is going to enforce it. Now, as far as the hospitals are concerned, obviously, noone's going to smoke if the patient doesn't want us to smoke. On the other hand, I don't smoke. According to what Senator Chambers said, I'm in the wholesale tobacco business. I'm in the wholesale tobacco business. Anybody that feels that my position is there from the standpoint of self interest, go ahead and feel that but that's not so. I don't like by inference indicate that that might be so. But I think we ought to pass the bill like Senator Marsh has got it if that's what the majority wants. Let's see what happens. Let's see if it's going to be enforced.

PRESIDENT: Are you all through discussing the motion to return LB600 to Select File, to strike for specific amendment, that would be to strike the portion relating to the hospital areas? Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: Mr. President, fellow members. I think it's unwise to return this bill to Select File. I think it's a good bill. I'm willing to take the flak if there is any. Deep down in my heart I think it's a real good piece of legislation.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? Senator Proud, do you have any closing then on your motion which would return your bill to Select File?

SENATOR PROUD: I don't see any point in wasting time. I withdraw the motion.

PRESIDENT: All right. The motion is shall LB600 be....oh, I'm sorry, I didn't catch, withdrawing the motion?

SENATOR PROUD: I just said, Mr. President, there's no use wasting time. It looks to me like the intent of the Body is clear. I withdraw the motion.