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LB 344

SENATOR STONEY: Senator DeCamp, the only information that I have to draw on and I had my light on to address some of the concerns that have been expressed by Senator Haberman and also yourself. We can always list this parade of horrors on anything. Now all I can draw on is what the State of Minnesota advises me when I have asked these specific questions and they advised that since it is a law, that they have very little difficulty. It is all handled voluntarily from a regulation standpoint. They have not had to hire off duty policemen, deputy sheriffs, et cetera, et cetera and will you please keep in mind the major concern of the tobacco industry and that is a monetary consideration and a monetary consideration only. If you think for one instance that the tobacco industry is concerned about manners, et cetera, and about enforcement then you have got another think coming.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, then let me outline and I guess I am being a little selfish in talking on a conflict of interest situation. I have a place, seats oh, maybe three hundred fifty, four hundred people. Friday and Saturday nights we have country western music, a country western band sitting up there, tables surrounding this huge dance floor, people packed in there like they are sardines. I guess they love it that way. Anyway, at a table, maybe ten, twelve, fifteen people. You can bet that half of them are smoking and all hopefully drinking. What am I going to be faced with? Somebody sits there and lights up a cigarette and he is about six feet eight. A cowboy just came in off the trail and going to dance there and I walk up and I say, now listen cowboy, you can't smoke there. I see serious enforcement difficulties right in my own place.

SENATOR STONEY: Are you asking me to respond, Senator DeCamp?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Yes. Is it workable?

SENATOR STONEY: They say it is in the State of Minnesota. If you will take a look at the material that I distributed there is some information in there by one of the restaurateurs there who had some of the same serious concerns that you are expressing. He actually did a survey by himself to find out what area he should designate for smoking, nonsmoking, during the lunch hour as well as the evening hour. He has allotted spaces for that and it has not been a problem. Now once again, if an area that is designated