

April 4, 1979

LB 221

leading role in this problem of alcohol abuse and that is the key. That is the very key. I'm not going to stand up here and brag to you that I have a bar in my basement. I don't have a bar in my basement. I don't need a bar in my basement. I think that is a bad example to have a bar in your basement, to see those shelves cluttered with alcohol. That is the way I live. That is my philosophy of living life. I think that is a poor example to a five year old. If you smoke a cigar in front of a five year old, how are you going to expect that five year old to think that that is a good thing? That is a bad thing. You know it is but they are not going to think it is a bad thing and in closing, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, if any of you people had read the testimony and the transcript of the public hearing, how many people from law enforcement came to testify in opposition to the bill? You could probably count them on one hand, if even one. How many Moms and Dads from across the state came to testify in opposition? You could probably count them on one hand. How many educators came to testify in opposition? You could count them on one hand. Well then who are the people that are dealing with these young people day after day?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is up.

SENATOR VENDITTE: It is those three categories, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would hope that you would see fit to at least advance the bill to the floor of the Legislature to give at least the public the chance and you a chance to debate this issue. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to oppose the motion to bring LB 221 from the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee. There has been a great deal of debate and discussion about this issue. That debate will continue if it is brought to the floor for some time to come and the debate in the community will continue for some time to come also. But let me counter some of the arguments that I have heard so far. One of the things that I would say to you, members of this committee, is the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee has been dealing with this bill, has been looking at it, has been analyzing it. There have been numerous amendments proposed. There are a number of different directions under which there might be some sort of compromise. There are those in both camps that would not compromise at all and maybe that is as it should