

April 25, 1979

LB 221

times not supervised or they can go down on the street here and buy it from a wino, give them a buck and it is a bootleg job but here we are one more time, a simplistic approach to a complicated problem and I submit to you the best way to attack this social issue and behavior problem is for the adults to first start setting examples in this country. The teachers who endorse this bill and I am a teacher and a former teacher and I am still proud of it but if I used cocktails, I will tell you what, I was discreet. I didn't go to the common lounge in town and over imbibe. I didn't smoke in public. I did it discreetly in my home. You may say that that was being less than honest. I will say yes, it probably was but the point was I wasn't going to be out here as a model. As a young man said in a hearing before our committee, he said, I went home to my small town and Senator Kelly was there and heard this. He said, I saw several of my faculty members bombed. Now I don't like to use the faculty as a whipping horse but the NSEA ought to stay out of these kinds of issues and speak to the truth and Senator Kelly says in his handout that the schools are going to change their rules. The hell they will change them. They have had rules against drinking ever since I can remember but what good does it do you to turn in a kid over drinking and the police slap him on the wrist because he knows a parent and will not enforce the law. If we persist with this folly, I am going to offer an amendment when it gets over there. We are going to hold people accountable, the parents or the guardian. If the child is picked up or the young adult is picked up, then that parent is going to suffer equally with that young adult. They are going to go to the same kind of jail, spend it at nights or weekends or they are going to go to the same kind of defensive driving school or they are going to go to the same detox center and take the same kind of counseling and, Senator Kahle, you may be a little sick of this but having been in a classroom as long as I have I will tell you this. Young people need guidance. They need leadership and they need positive action, not negativism and I am not speaking for those who sell alcoholic beverages. I am speaking for young adults that I have great faith in. In fact, I see fewer young adults over intoxicated today than I do people in the forties and fifties. I have seen them stupid. Go to some of your American Legion Halls and see them on Friday and Saturday night. Go to some of your bingo meetings and some other places where the adults gather together for the purpose of socialization. Watch them stumble out of those places at lock up time and then go somewhere else and try to get some more. What I am doing today is I am going to

3916