

February 4, 1980

LB 696

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, but the feeling was that you couldn't introduce sort of a cleanup bill all on its own to try to deal with the problems you identified? You would rather amend 696 as introduced? Just, I don't know what my feelings are on this bill. I have been wondering about exactly what the focus is and I am going to vote against it just because I am not sure it is the step to take, but then again I am not sure that it isn't a good bill and I think we ought to give more attention to this type of legislation that comes through. I am not even sure who all supported the amendments or the changes involved here. I am not sure who is behind the bill as it is presently amended and I am concerned about giving it adequate attention and so I am just going to...I don't know what exact questions to ask or issues to raise but I think we should be concerned about changes incorporated in this legislation.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp please.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, just I have more than a passing interest in the legislation. My first year here I wrote I guess it was LB...or sponsored LB 326 which re-wrote all the drug laws of the state, about three hundred and some pages, and when we make major changes, we like to know that there is a good reason for it. As my understanding, we are dramatically changing the, we are dramatically changing the penalties for, for example, selling marijuana, is that right? Okay, could you turn his microphone on? We are dramatically changing the penalties. Have we had a public hearing on these particular provisions?

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, on some of these we have not had hearings, on some of these amendments. Senator DeCamp, (interruption).

SENATOR DeCAMP: Would you turn him up? I can barely hear him.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator DeCamp, you are right. We have not had hearings on all these amendments which include the portion that you are speaking of which increases the penalty for heroin or marijuana oil as compared to marijuana in its original state.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Okay, and basically, the bill was kind of an innocuous or noncontroversial bill to do with driving and leased cars and this kind of thing when it started, right?