

earlier this session passed a law that raised the penalty on drug pushers. That is potentially effective. Putting more money into the drug informant fund of the Highway Safety Patrol, that might be effective. This bill is not effective, however, we are faced with a sort of a nefarious argument, that to do otherwise than to pass 991, to do otherwise than to close a head shop is to give tacit agreement to allow for the glamorization of drugs. I don't think that is true. I don't think one tacitly approves of everything else in society that is legal by simply existing in that society. I do not support, I do not give my tacit agreement to things that I find personally offensive although they are legal. I don't subscribe to the theory that anything is legal that is legal, somehow I am approving of. That is not true. My morality is personal as I hope everyone else's is and the fallacy of the argument between 991 is that your personal morality means and your message to your children is that drugs are acceptable in the event you tolerate head shops in the community. That is not an acceptable principle to apply, the merging of the personal morality with the public morality. Lastly, it does not constitute glamorization of drug usage. I don't know how many of you are familiar with people who use drugs, who smoke dope. I am thirty-one years of age. I went through college in a time when people smoked a lot of dope. I have been there in the time when dope smoking was a popular phenomena. I have been in the National Guard. I have been in a series of situations in which I knew a lot of people who smoked dope and they didn't smoke dope for the pleasure of holding a pipe or holding a bong. They did it to know what smoking dope was like or the effect of it.

SPEAKER MARVEL: We have one minute left on the bill.

SENATOR LANDIS: If you drink alcohol you don't drink alcohol because it is out of the bottle or because it is in a golden chalice. You drink it because you want to drink beer or you want to drink wine. It is not for the pleasure of holding a glass that you drink booze and the same thing is true about LB 991. The bill is misguided and lastly, the most nefarious effect is it turns our attention from the drug problem and how we can genuinely solve the problem to a fallacious and superficial solution and all it does is placate the public's desire for action in a complex area. The Legislature should not be let off the hook so easily as to pass eyewash like 991. We should face up to the problem and attack its complex roots rather than dealing with the superficial answer and for that reason I intend to oppose both the