

person shall knowingly transport any alcoholic beverages. Only the driver of the vehicle could be ticketed as a transporter of an open or unsealed container." By adding the words "possessor" the bill will be broadened so that all passengers with an open container within the reach of the driver can also be ticketed. Without this amendment two people could be drinking beer in the back seat of a car, but only the driver could be ticketed. By adopting this amendment a law enforcement officer can ticket those actually in violation of the law. And that is what the amendment says. Now as far as taking those portions out that they took out, I really didn't want that taken out, but I can live with what it is because I feel we need to correct some language here. Now as you all know, you cannot drink on a public highway. It is against the law now, but the problem is when a highway patrolman comes upon an individual who has been drinking he has to actually see them drink and normally it's the first reaction when you see a highway patrolman, if you're drinking beer or whatever, you're going to put it down on the floor board or put it between your legs or something or pour it out. And the purpose of this law is that they can then arrest that individual for driving and drinking on a public highway. So I urge you to support this amendment to clarify the bill and to make it more...have a larger impact upon the individual who is drinking on the highway. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: I have eight lights on. I don't know if I have them in the right order now that the amendment has been...Senator Shirley Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to address both Senator Sieck and Senator Hefner. What happens under the proposed amendment to the committee amendments if a family has had a reception and there is a half full bottle of champagne left over from the wedding reception? Can they safely and legally transport that to the family's home by placing it in the trunk?

SENATOR SIECK: They can put it some place where it is out of the reach of the driver in a concealed...for instance, you mentioned a cooler. If they put it in that cooler so that nobody can just accidentally reach or the driver can't reach it, it is safe. That's what the amendment says now. Actually what the bill originally said that you'd have to have it clear away, like in the trunk, something like that,