

May 13, 1985

LB 280A

alcoholism and mental health people did not receive any increase for community programs through the normal appropriations process and this is because we all anticipated that funds would be dedicated to these programs through LB 280A. Now because of this, these programs which were not increased are facing the strong possibility of reduction. This situation is not fair and I urge you to vote in support of the motion. I plan to vote for the override of LB 280A. Thank you, members of the Legislature, and thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: You are most welcome, Senator Marsh. The Chair would recognize Senator Hefner, and then Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I urge you to override the veto. The Revenue Committee heard this bill. I wasn't supporting it at first because I felt that the increase was too large, that the tax would go up too much, but then we met with some of the other interests, some of the liquor interests and with some of the other people. We did work out a compromise that I thought was fair to everybody and so in the end I did support it and now I think that we need to send some of this money to those people that need it the worst. And, Senator Arlene Nelson, I know that you've worked very hard on this, Senator Lundy, Senator Sieck, Senator Pirsch and also the late Senator Kahle was very dedicated to this bill, or to a proposal to increase liquor taxes and use some of it for rehabilitation purposes. And so I just think that it is right that we dedicate some of this money to those people. I think the Governor is wrong in vetoing this bill. I know that we do have a shortfall of sales and income tax receipts, but I think it is wrong to take all of this money and put it into the general fund and so, therefore, I would ask you this morning to override the Governor's veto so that we will have some money for these people that need it the most.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, with a certain amount of genuine sorrow I'm going to support the Governor's veto of this measure. I say genuine sorrow because I specifically spoke to the Governor before he decided whether to veto or to sign LB 280A and I told him, I advised him that he should sign the bill. I