

March 16, 1973

(Start of Belt #4)

high school a year ago and felt that this was a good addition to our statutes and would really be meaningful to minors that were caught in possession of alcohol. It was too late to do anything last session but I assured her that we would do something this time and so we came in with the bill. And all this bill does is, it's permissive legislation but a judge can sentence a violator to a work detail in lieu of a financial fine. This little girl felt and I do too that, maybe, if some of these youngsters had to work out a fine rather than to have Dad dig down in his pocket or for them to dig down in their pocket and pay the fine, it would be more meaningful. I agreed with her thinking and I believe that it is good. It's not mandatory. It's purely permissive and may be of some help to the youngsters in our state and teach them a little more meaningful lesson.

PRESIDENT: Is there any further discussion of the bill? Senator Moylan, did you wish to be recognized? Then, Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR MOYLAN: Mr. President and members of the body, would Senator Carstens yield to a question?

PRESIDENT: Senator Carstens, will you yield to a question?

SENATOR CARSTENS: Yes, sir.

SENATOR MOYLAN: I kind of recognize this name. Is her father an attorney in Plattsburgh?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes, sir. That's right. Harold Leebons is an attorney in Plattsburgh.

SENATOR MOYLAN: I have great regards for his ability and I certainly would support this bill and I think it is a very good bill and should be passed on. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carpenter, did you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR CARPENTER: Senator Carsten a question.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten, will you yield to another question?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Yes.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now, I understand the problem better than most people because I'm involved in it indirectly. Would it be better to have it mandatory so that the judge would be eliminated from the pressures that many times could occur because of people being what they are and, maybe, he might want to put this young person on a...doing work and because of them, he wouldn't. Would he be in a better position, I am in favor of your bill, if it made him do it if that was the position the youngster was in?

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: I would agree with your thinking, Senator Carpenter. The only question that comes to my mind at the moment, there might not be a work detail that he could assign this person to right in the area. I'm really not sure about this. I understand your position and I think it is well taken and I would have no objection if it would not present some real problems in the execution of the sentence.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Well, then, will you contact those who contacted you, particularly judges, and see if that would not be more helpful than what you now have. You could amend it on Select File, I would think, if you wanted to.

SENATOR CARSTEN: I will certainly do that, sir. Yes sir, I