

April 2, 1979

LB 344

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there are three committee amendments to LB 344. I think we could take them all at once. The first committee amendment makes an internal correction within LB 344 changing the Department of Labor to the State Board of Health, or excuse me, to the State Board of Health and the Department of Health respectively. Secondly, it clarifies the violation section. The violation section currently talks about penalties for numerous violations and it was felt that to make the bill enforceable you would have to make the violation section apply to any violation and, thirdly, provide that the Department of Health shall consult with interested persons before promulgating the rules and regulations. Those are the only committee amendments.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Is there any discussion on the committee amendments? Are we ready to adopt the committee amendments? All those in favor of adoption of the committee amendments to 344 vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? These are the committee amendments to LB 344. We are voting on the committee amendments to LB 344 which is up for special order. Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the amendments are adopted. Senator Stoney, do you wish to explain the bill?

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I offer LB 344 in contrary to what some of the individuals in opposition to this proposal are espousing. It is indeed an issue that deals with a matter of health. The intent of this bill is to create equality for both smokers and nonsmokers through designation of smoking and nonsmoking areas in all public places. This equality and fairness to which I refer is not presently existent. If you will refer to your bill book I will briefly explain the provisions of LB 344 and I think the intent is fairly well explained in section 2 which indicates that this proposal is one to protect the public health, comfort, environment of all public places. Section 4 defines what a public place shall be. It is any enclosed area and it would include places of work, restaurants, retail stores, offices, commercial establishments, public conveyances, educational facilities, hospitals, nursing homes, auditoriums, arenas and meeting rooms. It