

March 29, 1984

LB 941

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.) May I please have your attention. It is a little noisy. Hold it down so we can hear the speaker.

SENATOR PIRSCH: I would like your indulgence. As you know, many things happen when you have a 15 minute time limit and that is why I offer this amendment and those of you who cannot support 941 to raise the liquor tax, I would hope that you at least could support the motion to avoid the Mickey Mouse, to avoid the frustration and the harassment and go to a vote, up or down, so we would be within the 15 minute time limit. We have discussed this. We have pointed out that this probably will not be an economic hardship for the liquor industry. In fact, with only three-eighths of a cent on a can of beer, if they charge a nickel to the consumer, they will come out better, making four and five-eighths cents on a can. We have discussed at great length these kinds of programs and costs that alcoholism causes and so without a long, lengthy debate again today, I would like to go to the vote. You all know how you feel on this subject. I'm sure you have been lobbied heavily on both sides and I encourage you to at least go to the final vote. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I believe, Mr. President, that this is a motion to suspend the rules and no further debate. Is it permissible for me to speak on the bill on this motion?

SPEAKER NICHOL: You have five minutes. You can speak whatever you want to about.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Preferably about one or the other though.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I have not risen at any time to speak for this bill or against this bill but I only want to bring a few facts in before we have this vote to suspend the rules and no further debate and I am speaking now on the funds that are allocated now for the alcoholism and drug program.