

May 5, 1993

LB 241, 632

LB 241 which were to expand our veterans council and to add American Ex-prisoners of War, Military Order of the Purple Heart and the Vietnam Veterans of America. I'll live with whatever the Chair rules.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. I am looking at the bill and the amendment right now, so if you'll just give me a minute. Senator Chambers, I, too, am a very firm believer in a very liberal rule, but in this case I'm going to have to rule that this is not germane.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment is by Senator Lynch, AM1909. (Lynch amendment appears on pages 1997-2000 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Speaker and members, I apologize for this not being published in the Journal but I did pass out a copy of it to you. But what AM1909 does is attempt to cure a defect in the bill by changing the nature of the handicapped parking violations. Essentially it changes violation of handicapped parking statute from a criminal offense to a civil matter. It takes it outside the criminal process. Instead of being a handicapped parking infraction, improperly using a handicapped parking space would be handicapped parking civil violation. And the purpose of this is after listening to all of you great legal minds and those who understand and those concerned with this issue did not want to develop any kind of legislation that would be punitive in nature, we would only hope that something like this better enforced by people who would volunteer their time to help it be enforced so that law enforcement officers would not have to come on private property, so that companies would not have to take it upon themselves to be the policemen. But when these warrants are issued, of course, the penalties are, depending upon the jurisdiction, the municipality, could be pretty severe. It's enough in itself to make the case and to leave the impression that people should not be violating these parking stalls that are handicap, and that is simply what it does. The amendment I think takes the place of the bill in a sense and it rewrites it and make sure that civil sanctions are included in at least I think almost 20 places in the bill. And that's about it. I'd try to answer any questions that you might have.