

March 30, 1979

LB 260

SENATOR GEORGE: Yes, Mr. President, I certainly want to support that amendment. We have had problems on the Indian reservations...number one, alcoholism is rampant there. We all know that. And number two, the Indian tribal governments are not recognized as governments in this sense and therefore they don't have any...they do not have any possibility to match funds, and therefore cannot receive any of these funds to fight alcoholism. Therefore, we have to change the law with Senator Cullan's amendment so that we can at least divert some funds to fight alcoholism in those areas where it is most needed. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is Cullan amendment number three to the Committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record.

CLERK: 11 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried and the Cullan amendment number three to the Committee amendments is adopted.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, I would move for the adoption of the Committee amendments as amended.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Now Senator DeCamp, do you wish to speak to the Cullan motion now to adopt the Committee amendments as amended?

SENATOR DeCAMP: Yes, Mr. President. I urge adoption of the amendments, and I would like to advise the Legislature, as they well know it is very unusual for a major industry to come in and sanction and work for and cooperate with the Legislature on a major tax increase upon themselves. Everybody knows that the use of alcohol has inherent with it the risk of abuse, and abuse of alcohol is something that...that has caused incredible amounts of woe and harm and death, and yet it is something that is in society, something that we do try to regulate, and that we do try to control. Now the industry initially, after looking at the legislation that was proposed, had the intention of opposing this vigorously. The reason...they felt the tax that was going to be imposed upon them was too severe, and the burden wasn't evenly distributed upon the rest of industry and the rest of society. However, after repeated meetings among beer people, liquor people, wine people, and so on and so forth, they worked out and settled with the proponents of this legislation to settle upon