

April 2, 1979

LB 344

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman, do you wish to speak? Otherwise I will call on Senator Koch. Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, I move the previous question.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The previous question has been called for. All those in favor of ceasing debate, or do I see five seconds? All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, opposed vote no. It is on the bill. Record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Debate is ceased. Senator Stoney, do you wish to close? Let me make this statement first in case there is any misunderstanding. The agenda shows one hour. The hour is up. If there is any objection then we stop, otherwise the Chair will take the brief closing of Senator Stoney and vote on the issue. Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I will be brief. The Surgeon General in his latest report which was a twelve hundred page report, indicates that the effects of smoking are far more dangerous than believed in 1964, and if that is true for smokers, I am sure for passive or involuntary smokers, the same is also true. People that are passive and involuntary smokers are beginning to speak out. I am attempting to change this statutorily here in the state, feeling that for uniformity of compliance this is the best way to address the issue. There are alternatives. That would be for nonsmokers to become more assertive, to boycott establishments. I hate to see that happen. Additionally in the State of California because the Legislature failed to act, it was placed on a referendum and not until the tobacco industry, ladies and gentlemen, had spent \$5,000,000 in the State of California, was this proposal defeated. Now smoking is a general nuisance and an annoyance to many but it is a genuine health hazard to some. Now this is no new concept that we are attempting to accomplish here, ladies and gentlemen. The airlines, the railroads have been doing it for years and years. Originally voluntary, they have gone to compliance now mandatorily and they are finding that more and more people are requesting nonsmoking areas. It is a potential hazard to passive smokers and those I mean nonsmoking spouses, children, unborn, those with chronic heart conditions, lung conditions, allergies and even people with contacts. Smokers assume that most people smoke but actually 39.3 of the adult male population smokes and