

April 9, 1979

LB 589

appropriation which as you all know is adjusted some time next year when the full claims for workmen's compensation are known. That, Mr. Chairman, is a very brief but far too long description of the operational budget for the general state agencies of state government.

SPEAKER MARVEL: There are amendments on the desk. The Clerk will read the first amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator George moves to amend: LB 589. Read George amendment offered on page 1386, Legislative Journal.

SENATOR GEORGE: Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator George.

SENATOR GEORGE: Let's try it again. Maybe this time it will work somewhat better. All I am trying to do here is the Liquor Control Commission has fourteen agents as their separate law enforcement arm. I think we have a much larger problem today to enforce the drug control laws but we do not have enough agents to enforce our drug laws and they I think absolutely need our support. I don't think it is that important to have fourteen people in civilian clothes running around the state and occasionally coming into the VFW club and pulling guns and telling them that this is a raid. I think we have enough local policemen, we have enough sheriffs, we have enough state troopers to enforce those laws and I think reduction from fourteen to ten still leaves plenty of separate law enforcement arm, which by the way other departments don't have at all, and there is no increase in the money amount at all. We are just taking four of those fourteen, transfer them, increase the staff that we absolutely need to enforce our drug laws. I hope that you will support this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Newell, do you wish to speak to the George amendment?

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, I would like to ask Senator George some questions. Senator George, how many staff does the Liquor Control Commission have now?

SENATOR GEORGE: The enforcement arm is fourteen people and I am taking with this amendment four out, that leaves ten.

SENATOR NEWELL: It leaves ten. Have you contacted the Liquor Control Commission and asked about their workload and those kinds of things?