

April 25, 1979

LB 221

to LB 221 for some of the reasons that I have mentioned, specifically dealing with the driving back and forth from border towns, with the fact that there is going to be other problems...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is up.

SENATOR SIMON: ...I guess I take a look at the law enforcement problems and say LB 221 will not work. I support Senator Koch's motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the kill motion and I just want to quickly state that passing 221, the teenage alcohol drinking problem will not go away. It was here even maybe before we had an age twenty-one and it will be here long after we have age a hundred and twenty-one but I have been a parent probably as long as anybody in this room. Our children happened to come every nine years. Basically I have had children in high school for eighteen years and I have paid very close attention to each one of those children as I am the current one and, Senator Simon, you can accuse the parents and you can load the responsibility on them as much as you desire and as a parent I take every ounce of it as an opportunity to serve my children and the friends of my children as I have and as I will continue to do. That in no way in today's market, nineteen hundred and seventy-nine, in any way insures a success for my high school child. The peer pressure is almost unbearable and the resistance in today's market by teenagers is dwindling rapidly and it dwindles because they are drinking in the seventh grade. Ten years ago that didn't happen and twenty years ago it was unheard of but, today it is normal and accepted and accepted as we are pointing out on this floor, and we must quit doing it and this Legislature is the father image in this state that sets the procedures for how we live, which is what we do on the floor of this Legislature have got to come to grips with this problem now and to cop out on a kill motion is just reprehensible and even criminal. Senator Marvel is well aware of the catastrophe in Hastings a few months ago when a gas leak in some gas mains, the gas found its way into buildings and ultimately got to the right consistency with air and gas and found a pilot light and whoom, up went downtown Hastings. Came the National Guard, the sheriff's office, the police, the store owners, the Chamber of Commerce, the City Council, the fire department, the police department, what will we do, what will we do and what do you