

Senator Wagner, then Senator DeCamp, then Senator Keyes, then Senator Beutler, then Senator Haberman, then Senator Newell and then Senator Lewis. We hope you will keep this in mind as you proceed. Senator Kelly.

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I oppose this amendment, and I do it again with strict honesty. To my knowledge and to all that I can investigate and in continuing an investigation, there is not a state in the United States that has such a drinking control legislation as proposed by Senator Hoagland and company. Not a single state, to my knowledge, has such a system. Now please listen that Illinois would be the state in the United States that has done more experimenting with the drinking age than any other state in the United States. They had a local option system where counties or cities, political subdivisions, could choose as they will. After years of failure Chicago finally with Indiana on the east, the state line going through the metropolitan area, with 21, and Wisconsin just north of the city at 18, the city of Chicago tried a mixed age in taverns to let the 19 and 20 year olds drink and after it was in effect for a year the city council of Chicago said, absolutely not, this is uncontrollable, unenforceable and it has done nothing to curtail teenage drinking in Chicago, and the vote... please listen, the vote in the city council of Chicago was 43 to throw it in the lake and 1 not to throw it. It did not work in Chicago. It did not work in Illinois, and there is no reason to believe that it will work in the great State of Nebraska. There is no history of success for this proposal anywhere, and again I state, there is not a single state in the United States to my knowledge that has such a system in place. Nationally, the age group that has the highest accident rate with automobiles and alcohol is the 21, 24 year age group. A majority of our states, as far as population are concerned, have 21 age drinking law, but in Nebraska our category of the highest accident rate with alcohol is the 18, 21 year olds. It is the very group that this amendment would make an exception that they could continue drinking in the taverns. Notice now the accident time for automobiles and alcohol is from 11:00 p.m. until 2:00 a.m. and 80 percent of those are involved in coming from a tavern. I refer to Senator Hoagland's handout on his proposal which would probably be about on page 2, I think, you would refer to...yes, he has got it marked page 2 in the center of the page. What is off-sale proposal? The off-sale proposal would prohibit persons under 21 from purchasing alcoholic beverages at package stores or bars, to take out for consumption elsewhere or to pass down to younger teenagers. The next paragraph...the provision would permit persons 19 years or older to drink alcohol by