

January 29, 1980

LB 221

SPEAKER MARVEL: A. right. The motion carried. Any other amendments?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner now moves to amend and his amendments are found on page 439 of the Legislative Journal.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, this amendment is found on page 439 of the Legislative Journal. It is a simple amendment. It just changes the operative date of LB 221. I feel that LB 221 is a very important bill. It is important to Senator Kelly. It is important to the teenagers. It is important to the bar owners, the restaurants, the lounges, and it is certainly important to the law enforcement agencies that we have across the State of Nebraska. Therefore, instead of making this bill effective ninety days after the Legislature adjourns sine die, I recommend that it takes effect on the 1st of January of 1981, and to you, Senator Kelly, I offer this in all sincerity. I know you think I am trying to kill the bill, but I am not. I voted for this bill. I voted off of General File at the age of 21. I supported this amendment this morning, but I still think that we ought to start with a calendar year instead of the middle of the month or the middle of the year. I would say that if this amendment is passed why it will give the tavern owners and our law enforcement agencies across the state an easier date to enforce this law and to take effect. I would urge your support in this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kelly, do you want to speak to the Hefner amendment?

SENATOR KELLY: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, for three years Senator Hefner has supported raising the drinking age, and as a speaker for the supporters of 221 I thank him for that support, and I recognize a little differently than he interpreted that his motion now is support of LB 221. I rejected this motion three years ago based on the fact that one of the real sincere problems is alcohol in schools, and if a starting date would be placed on this bill, it should be placed prior to September 1 of that starting year, such as July 15, August 1, June 30th...any particular date. The problem that I would have supporting Senator Hefner's amendment is that it so happens in almost all of our schools that January 1 is in the middle of the school year. It makes a change for those operators who are operating clubs and activities that cater to those