

on people that want liquor licenses unless we can explain on the legislative floor how the Liquor Commission is going to implement these. How is the Liquor Commission going to establish that this license serves a public convenience and necessity and this one doesn't? How do we know what is a distinct need of an individual customer? These are the questions that I hope can be answered before this bill is advanced.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, I reluctantly oppose the Fowler amendment. I believe the bill in its present form can accomplish the goals that are needed in the liquor licensing industry. The bill in its original form or its existing form is supported by the Liquor Control Commission. Now as a practical matter a couple of court cases recently made it very clear that we had to do something, we had to give some directions, some guidelines, some authority to the Liquor Commission to determine when and when they are not going to grant license. And so as I say, as a practical matter, I think we have reached the point where we have got to give them almost...almost blanket authority to start really looking closely to see when they are going to start giving new liquor licenses because the state is presently drowning in liquor licenses and there is going to probably be in the next couple of years now one after another in cutthroat competition put each other out of business. Because the liquor license is the highest priced license in this state, the only one you pay for annually at an incredible rate, the only one that is called a privilege as opposed to almost all other licenses, when you make the guy pay so much for it, you should at least give him a reasonable chance to stay in business, and when you don't, you create a condition that they start doing practices, such as, selling to minors, operating after hours, using all kinds of practices that we don't want to condone. So, as I say, reluctantly, I oppose the Fowler motion or the Fowler amendment and suggest that we basically give the Liquor Commission blanket authority to start being very strict on who they give liquor licenses to and maybe even cutting down the number when one after another expires.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise to oppose the Fowler amendment because if we approve this amendment, then the bill doesn't do too much more. I will try to explain it just a little bit clearer. He is striking the (c) and (d) parts of this one section and the reason we