

April 1, 1981

LB 129

bill to criminalize public drunkenness and it was sent before the Judiciary Committee and the people of the State of Nebraska came to hear about a bill that was going to criminalize public drunkenness, but after the introducer said take out every reference that I had for public drunkenness, take out the entire bill that I have offered, and instead insert this amendment that says we want to tax alcohol. So there was no one there to really testify against the bill for alcoholism...for the tax on alcohol. It was merely...I consider it a sham to send this bill before the Judiciary Committee saying it is a bill that will criminalize public drunkenness and then totally take out all reference to public drunkenness and say we just want to put a tax on alcohol. So, in effect, the people who would be affected by a tax on alcohol have never had a public hearing on this bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Higgins, do you have a....

SENATOR HIGGINS: So I would move that the bill be either indefinitely killed or sent to the Reference Committee to be properly referred to the proper committee. There has never been a public hearing on this.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Would you come up to the Clerk's desk and you need to write out what your motion is, please. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I was asked a question on the previous bill. I had assumed that the committee amendments had been adopted but I don't see it listed in the book so were they officially adopted, 466?

SPEAKER MARVEL: I will check in just a minute. Are you talking about 129 or 466? 129?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I was looking at 466 and I don't see where any committee amendments were adopted, so if what was advanced on 466 was the original bill, I just want to know if that is true so I will know what to do for Select.

CLERK: Senator, will you, I am sorry, there is a lot of conversation. Your question is whether the committee amendments were adopted on 466?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

CLERK: They were. On March 30, Senator, Monday, when we last considered it.