

March 10, 1982

LB 568

to indicate in advance why I am going to vote against the particular amendment even though I know Senator Hoagland and Senator Haberman have their heart in the right place. I have an alternative amendment that I think addresses the problem more adequately. However, I will not even offer that amendment unless and until such time as it has the support of such people as the patrol, the Council on Alcoholism, the MADD mothers, "Mothers Against Drunk Drivers", Motor Vehicles Department, everybody involved in alcohol. And if and when it does, and I think it might well soon, then I would ask you to support that proposal which will I think have swift and certain punishment that is cost efficient and effective, and even though it may not have the dramatics of immediately locking people up in jail or lopping off fingers or heads or whatever we are doing, I think it would be effective in terms of reducing drunk driving. So I am going to support the committee amendments until such time as I get these other pieces put together and I will let you know then. I do believe all the dramatics in the world in this problem may cause more harm than good, and if we want to make headway instead of headlines, I urge a tad of caution.

SENATOR CLARK: I would like to announce as Senator Marvel announced earlier that there will be a change in agenda item #8 as the former legislators will not be in the Chamber until 3:30, so we will continue until 3:30. Senator Chambers is next. That is the last speaker I have.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, this will be my last comment on this bill if I can restrain myself. This is the point I wanted to get across too. First of all, I don't like people to drink and drive. I hope that is clear. I don't feel that a drunk driver is justified in doing what he or she does. I am simply saying that if it is a problem to be addressed, it should be addressed on a comprehensive basis. Drinking, remember, is sanctified in this society. Alcohol is everywhere. It is in the church as a part of the communion. Doctors drink, lawyers drink, judges drink, legislators drink, everybody drinks. The young people see the drinking. They can't turn on television without seeing the people who play baseball, who dig tree trunks out of the ground and who help individuals do this, that or the other get Lite Beer. Have you ever tasted Lite Beer? Well, you haven't tried the right one. You have seen it all. You see the wine...this little fellow named Chello Somebody, he's not handsome, he's not tall, but he's got the right kind of wire so he gets all the girls. Everything is done to make alcohol attractive. Everybody does it. I never get an invitation to any function