May 19, 1989

LB 781

Enrollment and Review, Mr. President. That's all that I have at this time. (See pages 2591-92 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Returning then to LB 781. We were, I believe, on a motion to return the bill. Is that right, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Smith had moved to return the bill for a specific amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: I'll proceed to the lights. Senator Haberman, on the motion to return.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, for the last half hour you have observed a form of harassment, harass, harass, harass. Take the time, make people angry, pull votes off of the bill. You have been told, you have been told that possibly there is one entity that wasn't included in this amendment, and it might be the convenience stores. Well, for your information, the retail liquor association people, the liquor distributors association people, and the wholesalers association people were all in on drafting this amendment. They were all in on drafting the amendment. The committee has had the amendment for approximately 10 days. None of the committee members, until tonight, raised a question. But some way they got a list of technical questions to ask, tear it apart, cause confusion and defeat the bill. So, as I say, you've been told it's bad. Well, it's not bad. If it is bad, bad, bad, and we pass the legislation with the amendment, as we should, the Chairman of the committee and other members of the committee have assured me that this summer they will correct anything that these people think is bad, bad, bad. But you just don't stand up here and harass somebody and harass a bill and say technical this, and this is going to happen, those people don't have any control, because you can't ask every Tom, Dick and Harry to meet on a bill. You had the representatives of the liquor ... retail liquor, the distributors and the wholesalers of liquor. You cannot possibly include everybody. And, if somebody has their nose out of joint, because they were not asked, they are using that as an excuse, purely an excuse to say this is a bad bill, because they don't want the bill. It's just that simple. So, I would ask you to do this, support the legislation, you know the background of why it's being harassed. They were included in on the amendment, it's a good amendment, so let's adopt the amendment and get on with cur business. I'll give the rest of