

March 28, 1990

LB 976

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is, shall the house go under call? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 17 ayes, 1 nay to go under call, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The house is under call. Members, return to your seats and record your presence. All members outside the Legislative Chamber, please return and record your presence. The house is under call. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: I wouldn't mind beginning my closing during the time people are coming in to compress the amount of time necessary to do this.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. If that is your desire, proceed.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. There were a number of people not voting in the last couple of votes which makes me think they were off the floor, and if you come right back into the floor, you will have a tough time asking your seatmate what is up for grabs because it is getting pretty intricate. So I thought maybe we would have a chance to just talk about where we are in the process so you will know what this issue is when we get to the voting. Senator Pirsch has a measure which increases penalties in certain drug-free zones. They are to be posted, if possible. They are I think 1,000 feet away, as I recall from the terms of the bill, but the list includes schools, playgrounds, swimming pools, video arcades, and other locations, and the measure says that in this location penalties will be upped if drug sales occur. Senator Johnson has an amendment that says we will stiffen the penalties for the sale of drugs to kids. We will stiffen the penalties for the sale of drugs to kids, and this amendment that I am offering to the Johnson amendment says as we attach the Johnson amendment to 976, the original provisions are stricken. So it makes, if this amendment is adopted to the Johnson amendment, which I then would intend to vote for the Johnson amendment, it would say that we would be supporting increasing penalties for the sale of drugs to kids. We would not, however, be creating the drug-free zone concept that is now in 976. That having been said, let me tell you why I think that is the case, and perhaps it is easiest to do that by going through some of the points that Senator Pirsch made in a very articulate and heartfelt speech that she