

modify the amendment if nothing has been done to it. So there was the offering by the Chair as to whether there was an objection to it, and there wasn't. So you are about, I am not going to say a day late and a dollar short, you are about a second late and a penny short. But almost, right, Senator Kristensen, he always tells me almost doesn't count. But in all seriousness, this amendment that I am offering is offered in seriousness. Two or three who have spoken have acknowledged how grave a problem alcohol really is in this society where our young people are concerned. There are all kinds of parties that the youngsters have in places outside the home and that liquor is provided to them by adults. And sometimes the results of these parties may be more than just fights and fracas among themselves and the foolishness that attends them. They may drive and have accidents or go someplace else, either to their own neighborhood or some other location on the way there, they may have some difficulties with other people who are not as cheerful as they are. So it is not necessary for me to give a litany of problems that are associated with alcohol. The problem that I face is trying to persuade a Legislature, which is devoting so much time to fighting drugs, to take seriously the issue of alcohol as a devastating, destructive drug. If I could enlist the silver-tongue of Senator Landis in the cause of protecting our precious children from the ravages of alcohol, then it would probably help a great deal in obtaining acceptance of this amendment. If I could get Senator Hall, who I know has a concern for children, to see the validity of this amendment as altered with the proviso that when we get through with this amendment in conjunction with Senator Hall, if necessary, I will draft an amendment to those last four lines in the Johnson amendment that currently say "lack of knowledge of the age of the person who receives this substance is not a defense", we could exempt out those who sell alcoholic beverages under a legal license from the state. And nothing in the present law would be changed as far as those who legally can do these things now. What the amendment would do then is be targeted specifically to the circumstances where somebody older gives this drug to somebody younger and we will put it at the same level as these other forbidden substances, which do not cause nearly as much damage to society as alcohol. They cannot produce anybody who, as a result of marijuana or heroin, has cirrhosis of the liver, or the other types of ailments associated with alcohol. When they talk about the problems created by drugs of the other variety, the illegal variety, they have to go on television and contrive situations like a skillet,