

February 28, 1991 LB 354

vote against the bill. So, thank you again, Senator Hall, for giving me this little opportunity. Now I don't have to file a friendly amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Hall will now close.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President and members. And, Senator Crosby, I appreciate your comments. There was much discussion. The bill was not a bill that was rushed over on General File by any stretch of the imagination. The one thing this bill doesn't do is it doesn't extend the hours that alcohol can be sold. Alcohol currently is sold from noon on. All it does is add, if after the local entity votes to do that, all types of alcohol to be sold, not just beer and wine. And, actually, right now under statute it is beer and wine and spirits, if you happen to be in a VFW or an American Legion Club because they are exempted from the law the way it presently is. So we currently allow for all alcohol to be sold just in certain types of settings. What LB 354 does is say we are going to make that uniform across the board, if the local entity, the city council says this is what we want to do. That is all it does. It does not mandate a thing. And I understand the issue of accidents can happen any time. I had two brothers nearly killed on a Sunday afternoon. It happened to be a little later, about four o'clock, Senator Crosby. There is no love in my heart for drunk drivers. The individual in the other car was killed. I know of what I speak, I do not think or advocate drunk driving by any stretch of the imagination, but I also understand that there is an industry out there that I happen to have some interest in, and I think they ought to be protected. I think they also ought to abide by the rules, and the rules ought to be as uniform as possible for them to work under. If they run afoul of the law, they should be as guilty as anyone else of that, and they should be taken to task for that. If they do that, under the liquor laws of this state, they lose their livelihood. They lose their livelihood. They think long and hard before they ever do that. This is not, by any stretch of the imagination on my part, advocacy for drunk driving. I do not approve of that. All we do here is let the locals unify...make uniform the laws in this state if they choose to do that. I would urge the adoption.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. We will now proceed to vote on the Hall amendment to LB 354. All those in favor