

by consumption of alcoholic beverages could be wiped out by prohibiting the manufacture, sale, distribution, possession, or use of alcohol, but that won't work. I see this kind of legislation as very hypocritical by this Legislature, and let me tell you why. I don't go to any of the social functions, I don't go to any of them to which we receive...or for which we receive invitations. Practically every one says there's going to be a happy hour, or a cash bar, or something to let you know that the consumption of alcohol is a part of that. I know that there are people who attend those functions, and after consuming alcohol will get in their car and drive it. The contempt that is shown for the members of the Legislature, as far as principles, is demonstrated by the need that these lobbying and special interest groups feel to include alcoholic beverages as a lure to draw the senators there. Now, forgetting that sometimes senators come back from wherever they go during breaks with a heavy smell of alcohol on their breath, forgetting that, this is the kind of issue, as Senator Hall pointed out, that can be demagogued to death. Senators, while not conforming to the kind of conduct this legislation would indicate they think is appropriate, will give to the public the false impression that there is so much concern about the public's interests that we must enact this kind of Draconian legislation. If somebody punishes a violation that is hurtful to another individual, then punish that act which hurts somebody else, but to adopt a general attitude that this is an area where very harsh punishments can be imposed because everybody hates drunken drivers, I think is inappropriate. There are too many times that the Legislature engages in what I consider inconsistent conduct. When we were talking about the smoking that young people get involved in through vending machines, there was more concern with those who push the vending machines and the tobacco industry than there was with the young people, and we have an amendment on a bill to establish that. Now we're going to come forth with a bill like this and say we're so concerned about the young people and their welfare that we're going to take their license, if they have any evidence of alcohol in their system when, in fact, they're following what they see the senators do. And they don't have to have an amount of alcohol that meets the definition of being intoxicated. We don't instruct our young people by our example and by putting money into education programs, or into counseling, or rehabilitation, should they have a problem, it's easy to simply impose a punishment and say I have attacked the problem by again punishing the young. There is more child abuse in this country than any other place on the