

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 12, 1999 LB 126
 LR 38

SENATOR KIEL: I'll waive closing.

SENATOR CROSBY: She waives closing. The question is the adoption of legislative resolution, LR 38. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. Record, please. Someone asked for a record vote.

CLERK: (Read record vote. See page 949 of the Legislative Journal.) 28 ayes, 1 nay.

SENATOR CROSBY: The resolution is adopted. Thank you, Mr. Clerk. General File, LB 120...LB 126. Senator Schellpeper, I will give you a couple of minutes to bring us up to date on the bill and the committee amendments.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President and members. LB 126, excuse me, is a bill that we had been working on for several years, that trying to find some way to curtail the drinking of alcohol by teenagers. In all of the hearings that we had over the last about two or three years, we found out that the one thing that is very important to the teenagers is their driver's license. Several, in fact, all of the surrounding states have laws currently that will take away the driver's license. Some of the states even have some jail time. We decided that we didn't want to put the minors into jail. We thought the driver's license for a short period of time would be more a detriment on their alcohol consumption than anything else, and...because it has worked that way in the other states. They found out that the alcohol consumption by minors has gone down tremendously. The committee amendments, we had a meeting, if you look at the actual committee statement, you'll know that there was quite a bit of opposition from all of the retailers, and so we had a meeting with them and we tried to work out a compromise with them, that they would lose their license on the third offense. The bill, the original bill stated...stated second. So what we did we increased the penalty, we doubled the penalty on the first and second offenses, and then we'd take away the license on the third offense. So it was, we think, a good compromise. Another concern in the hearings is that some of the sting operations are not done quite like they'd like to see them done, and so we, the committee amendments state that