

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

March 31, 1999 LB 267
 LR 60

be printed. Mr. President, a new resolution, LR 60 by Senator Kristensen. (Read by title for the first time.) That will be laid over. (See pages 1299-1300 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, LB 267 introduced by the General Affairs Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 11, referred to the General Affairs Committee. The bill was advanced to General File.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The Chair recognizes the Chair of the General Affairs Committee, Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. First of all, this bill has nothing to do with any federal dollars or federal highways or nothing like that. We're on a totally different subject here. This bill has been around for several years. It has a long history, basically because we've been into a constant debate with what we should do as a state and what the Supreme Court says we can and cannot do. LB 267 just puts into law what the Supreme Court said that we have to follow as far as issuing liquor licenses. We tried several, in fact, we tried one constitutional amendment. We tried several bills to try to make it so that the Liquor Commission would know how that they may give out these liquor licenses. The local political subdivisions would like to have more control. The Supreme Court has always said that Liquor Commission has the final say-so, and you will follow certain rules and regs. And that's, basically, what LB 267 is. We're only doing what the Supreme Court said that was legal in 19...in 1984. That was the law that the Supreme Court said we have to follow, and that's what we're doing with this bill. It allows the Liquor Commission to issue licenses if the individuals have...don't have a felony record, if they don't have anything else on...if they have the financial to run this establishment. I know some of the cities are not happy with what they are currently doing, but every bill we have tried has been struck down by the Supreme Court. Almost every year we try a bill like this and some years we get it almost up to passing, and then we ran out of time. It's never been any priority bill, because they are currently doing what the Supreme Court said they have to do. And we just think, as a committee, that it should be into statute what we're actually...what the actual law that the Liquor Commission is currently following and