

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

May 3, 1999

LB 267

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hilgert, why don't we just get rid of the book altogether? Would the retailers like that?

SENATOR HILGERT: I'm not sure that they would because that would eliminate the defense altogether.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, they're not going to use the defense, so they must not think it's important. If the word is "shall", that "shall" saves a retailer from himself or herself, isn't that true, by requiring everybody to sign the book?

SENATOR HILGERT: In a world of absolutes you're correct.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So why don't we just leave it as "shall"? When I was talking about changing some words to "may", people were telling me it's not important, we don't have to change that to "may". Leave it as "will". Leave it as "can"; "may" doesn't mean anything. We know what "may" means. Now here we are and a whole bill is demoted to "may". I'm not asking you a question, Senator Hilgert, so you...you don't have to come to your mike. I'm just relishing this, and I don't think that the amendment ought to be adopted. What ought to be done is to change the amendment to abolish the book and let all of these retailers take adequate precautions against selling to underage people. Otherwise, there is no reason to change this to "shall"...to "may". Either keep the book and everybody has to get the signatures or do away with the book because there is no purpose for it. The retailer says, I'm not worried, I don't need a defense, so put "may" and I'll have people sign the book, if I want to, but I probably won't. Then let's just do away with the book altogether, or leave it as "shall". Now here's the question I'm going to ask Senator Hilgert. Senator Hilgert, will you draft an amendment to do away with the book altogether before this bill advances?

SENATOR HILGERT: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Why not, Senator Hilgert?

SENATOR HILGERT: Because I believe that with fake IDs, I still think that you can card a juvenile and they can have a fake ID