

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 283

where my two sons are. My career is ended, all because of alcohol. Senator Jensen, you're right on with your proposal for a alcohol tax increase for treatment. I attend AA twice a week, but I am afraid when I get out of here of what might happen. This amendment is going to save thousands, perhaps millions, of dollars. It will save money in our corrections system. It will save money in our social cost of spousal abuse, child abuse, welfare costs. Is the increase too much? Senator Janssen, I would just beg to differ with you. A case of beer is going to cost 40 cents more. Is somebody from Omaha going to drive across the river for 40 cents? It's going to cost 40 cents in gasoline taxes to do that. I don't think so. A six-pack of beer, 10 cents. I think it is time and, yes, I don't like to designate dollars, but this is the only way that we are going to get dollars for treatment. And I think that we have an opportunity here to change the way that we've been doing this. We have an opportunity here to increase taxes that will provide dollars for the General Fund, which we sorely need, provide dollars for treatment which we absolutely need. It will help those behind bars. It will help those on parole with their revocations that are because they've been drinking. I think it's a win-win situation. I would just ask that you would support this amendment for this small increase in comparison to the cost. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Bromm.

SPEAKER BROMM: I would call the question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on the Jensen amendment, AM1737? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on ceasing debate. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. Debate does cease. Senator Jensen, you're recognized to close on AM1737 to LB 283.