

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

May 7, 2003

LB 283

something. But jimjam tremens is actually a term found in the dictionary. When people are not given the amount of alcohol that they need to satisfy that craving or dependence that the body has developed, they shake, and they look like they're going to have some kind of stroke. Never having consumed alcohol myself, I haven't experienced that, so I don't know whether there is a great amount of agony, whether there is mental confusion and bewilderment, but it's something that people do not want to go through. There are ailments associated with the liver, cirrhosis of the liver, and other types of very serious problems. Pregnant women are counseled not to drink while pregnant. They are not just counseled, they are advised.

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Sometimes there are people who go to great lengths trying to convince them not to do this. And we're dealing with a substance that is legal. Nobody can show me one positive thing that results from alcohol, which, if it were removed from this earth, society would be the lesser for it. Saying it a different way, there is no affirmative contribution to society from the consumption of alcoholic liquors. Even when it is used in connection with religious services, it is not the alcohol itself, it is what the alcohol symbolizes. And if the alcohol were not available, some other fluid,...

SPEAKER BROMM: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...liquid, or beverage would be used. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, although I'm also one of the poorest drinkers in this Chamber, I don't stand today to support the Chambers amendment on moral grounds. I think I'm standing here on financial grounds. There has been talk about how much alcohol costs. And I think we're all aware of that. But what I look at this, is this, is yesterday that the good Senator Jensen introduced a bill. I spoke at that time, and my two qualms about his bill was this. One is that