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LB 283

even alcohol use for religious ceremonies. The Methodist Church uses grape juice. And the reason is because a man by the name of Mr. Welch had a recovered alcoholic that went to church and took communion and then regressed again and became an alcoholic. So I'm not going to vote for your amendment, Senator Chambers. But I will tell you, at least the people that go to church won't be paying a tax on a beverage in church. I'm not saying Methodists don't use alcoholic beverages, understand.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schrock. There are no further lights on. Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your amendment. Senator Chambers, could you approach, please? Senator Chambers, you're recognized to close on your amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the Legislature, this amendment is offered in seriousness. I have others that I'm going to offer in seriousness if this one is not adopted. But I believe we ought to do what this amendment recommends. We are not being unfair to anybody. It is not an unconscionable tax. What the original form of LB 283 offered was not an unconscionable tax. But on this particular issue this afternoon, I intend to stay on it. There was a point that I was making when I ran out of time. So I may pursue that further on my next amendment. Senator Schrock mentioned that grape juice is used in the Methodist Church. In the church I grew up in, grape juice was used, because they didn't believe alcoholic beverages should be consumed ever, and that to consume those beverages was what they called a sin. So different churches have different preferences. But there are churches that use alcoholic liquor in their services. Now, I don't know whether alcohol is taxed if it's going to be used in church. But I'm sure they wouldn't mind, and they may not make an issue of it. Most of the time, all a guy would have to do is reach in his pocket, and he'd pull out a flask and say, well, I can supply it if you don't mind it pouring over the lip of a bottle that has already been drunk from. And I'm sure the head person in the church would say, well, alcohol kills germs, so nobody's going to be hurt by that; let's pour it out and get with it. I think it is not a good commentary on the Legislature when it must seek permission to levy a tax. But if the Legislature is