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FLOOR DEBATE

April 13, 2005 LB 480

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Bourne, AM1051.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, to open on AM1051 to the committee...

SENATOR BOURNE: Mr. President, I'd like to withdraw that amendment and file it on Select File, please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: So ordered.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Thompson, AM1179. (Legislative Journal page 1174.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Thompson, you're recognized to open on AM1179.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. This is in response to discussion yesterday on the floor, Senator Synowiecki's concern about prohibiting minors from bars under the definition for this act. It would delete that and take it back to the language that's currently in regulation. Second was an issue brought by Senator Bourne about people who lease entire rooms or halls for private social functions. And this would...is kind of a...not a total...totally back to the way it is, but I think is a reasonable accommodation to Senator Bourne. It would allow the proprietors of places in which an entire room or hall is used for a private social function to make the decision on whether smoking is allowed in the entire area. Currently, it's the person who rents or the...who gets to do that. This is an issue that has been brought to me regarding places that have multiple uses. Sometimes a hall is used, for example, as a childcare center during the week. If the person who owns that hall doesn't want to lease it so that there's smoke in it and the particulates are there and it's a problem for the childcare center, they would still, under this law, since they own it, be allowed to determine whether or not, under this amendment, smoking would be permitted. So again, these are two things that were raised to me by Senator Synowiecki and Senator Bourne that are accommodations. Again, the first would strike the bar definition from the language defining a bar that