

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

March 30, 2006      LB 845

do something about that, and if this "shall" were changed to a "may," they would be able to. That's an issue and a major one that's an embarrassment to this state; it's not the only one. However, I think what I will do is make copies of this information that I have, after I briefly tell you about it, but it talks about some information that was gathered in both Maryland and in San Diego, California, and it talks about the relationship between liquor license density and domestic violence. The more dense the liquor licenses in their establishment, the more likelihood of domestic violence. And I certainly don't think we want to contribute to more domestic violence. It's all too serious a problem already. But these studies and the relationship, I think, is certainly an endorsement of what Senator Landis is attempting to do here. On a more local level, in my district, I have a church that's currently concerned about a new application going in almost next door to the church, but just over the 300-foot limit. They're concern is that within six blocks of the church there are already currently six liquor licenses that have been granted. Three of them are bars. The church sees the spillover problem of the littering, the broken glass on their parking lots where the children play, and we have restrictions to keep establishments away from parks and churches and, yet, 300 feet is not a very great distance. And with six licenses already within six blocks, this particular church is concerned and, yet, it appears that this new license is going to be granted and the Liquor Control Commission is essentially saying, we have no choice, we have to grant it. Density is not as much of a factor as it needs to be, and Senator Landis' legislation I think would at least allow the Liquor Control Commission to have more discretion and they would not have to automatically issue that liquor license where density is already a problem. I have these two handouts. I will initial those. I would ask a page if one would come to me and I will initial these so they can be copied and then handed out to everyone, and you can read yourself about the relationship of density and domestic violence. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Further discussion? Senator Janssen.