

April 8, 1994

LB 967

CLERK: 28 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

SPEAKER WITHEM: LB 967 is returned. Senator Landis, on your amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: I think I've opened.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Landis will allow his comments previous to constitute his opening. Senator Chambers, for discussion on the amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, now that I have given my point of view, I'm going to mention what can happen with the bill and it will not offend me in any respect even though I've made the comments I have made. I think we should add the amendment and readvance the bill. As has been pointed out, if the bill is enacted, it does provide some regulation. I'm just telling you why I can't vote for it. I'm not saying it's unwise for you to vote. It's a choice for the body to make. I'm not going to offer another amendment or extend the debate or do anything to try to impede the movement of the bill, but I want these things in the record so when I come back next year to try to make the thing illegal, nobody will say, well, Ernie, you should have said that last year, we didn't know how strongly you felt about this. Now the representatives of the industry know how I felt. An amusing thing was when a gentleman who runs one of these operations came and he was soft-spoken, mannerly, knowledgeable about what they were doing, and I told him, this shows how cunning you guys are. You select the person who has the most going for himself. He is articulate. He seems soft-spoken and if everybody was like him, it would be a desirable operation. I said, but I know some of the people, some of the kinds of people who are doing this so the fact that they selected you indicates they're trying to snooker me. And he had a young guy, who was a lawyer, with him to sit in on the discussion. And I said, who is this, your hatchet man? So, as we discussed it, and I talked about organized crime, the guy who was running one of the operations made the comment, when I was asking exactly what he did, he was mentioning that he handles the books and things like that. And I said, and who else works for you? He says, well, I have somebody else, my right-hand man who takes care of other activities. I said, that's exactly what I'm talking about. But he did not mean what I had been talking about. He was very

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