

STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

March 25, 1965

The meeting was called to order and Rep. Bower was introduced to discuss H.B. 813. He prefaced his remarks with discussion about some of the proposals that were killed yesterday. He stated that he heard that it was the fear of some members of the Committee that if the beer licensing bill should get out on the floor that he would use it as a vehicle to tie his dry bills onto; that if the Committee should try to reconsider its action he promised that he would not do this, nor would he use any pressure tactics on the bill if they wanted to reconsider and get it out on the floor. He then discussed HB 813 that would give local option to the retail sale of liquor. He stated that he thought this would be good legislation, pointing out that several states have it; and made a plea for getting this proposal on the floor, pledging that he would not ask for a roll call vote or do anything to embarrass members of the House; that he just wanted an opportunity once to get this bill out for debate on the floor.

Mr. Sargent appeared and discussed House Bills 831 & 832, stating that he felt that on bids for equipment for schools and agencies, local or instate firms should be given preference. He introduced Mr. Goe from Wichita who is with the Goe Surgical Supply. He discussed several bids on which his firm lost by just a few dollars, and states that the out of state bidders pay no local tax, and furthermore that the local firms are required to deliver more rapidly and must keep a heavy inventory on hand in order to do this, although they have no assurance of getting the bids; that if they could have a 5% margin that they could keep millions of dollars in the state with more employees paying taxes, the firm paying more taxes, etc. He states that they must service what they sell but that Chicago or Dallas or New York is too far away and these firms save money on servicing because of the time element involved and hospitals, schools, etc. call local service people to service equipment rather than to wait for someone to come a long distance to service them; that this is another form of discrimination against local businesses. He explains that nearby and bordering states carry a high differential or else hand out their bids the day they are to be let and that Kansas firms don't have a chance out of state.

Because of the time involved, the Chairman stated he would have to end the discussion and offered to let the proponents of 831 & 832 appear again on Monday. Thereupon, Mr. Meckel asked if the Committee might reconsider its action of yesterday on HB 992, stating that he would propose amendments that he believed would make everyone satisfied; that it would amend Montgomery County out and leave Reno and Saline in. He then moved to reconsider the

committee action of yesterday. Motion was scconded by Mr. Doyen and carried 9 to 4. Thereupon Mr. Meckel moved that the amendment be adopted. Motion was seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried 9 to 4. Mr. Bunten then moved that the bill be recommended for passage as amended. Second was by Miss Jacquart and carried 9 to 4.

Mr. Fribley then moved that the Committee reconsider action taken on HB 774; that this was in accordance with the feelings of the author; and that same be discussed at later times. Motion was seconded by Mr. Doyen, carried 10 to 3, and the meeting was adjourned.