

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker. David Bernard-Stevenson (sic), we are a fascinating body sometimes. How we can think of some things to say that really mean a little bit of nothing to try to get something that many of us are serious about. And you, yourself, you know you are just as serious and you care just as much about the kids and your little boys growing up as I care about my kids and my grandkids. I consider this a very serious issue. We went through this for four or five years, and I am not going to stand up here and make a lot of noise, distract what we are really talking about. We are talking about, again, the smokeless or the chewing or the dirty old spitting that goes on, and so on, in the school. We are not here to distract what...to take up time this afternoon with two days left. What we are talking about is the seriousness of the chewing tobacco. I see no reason for this bill being brought back. I see no reason for us even to spend time to discuss it, excepting again for the dollars that are involved, not only out in the rotunda, but for the dollars that may be one way or another flowing around to the State of Nebraska. I will just reiterate my comment, what does North Platte, Nebraska get out of it. They have a sign, the Rodeo Days. It is worth it for a few golf hats or a few golf clubs for the cancer and the oral problems that it has caused we are all asked to pay for. The same thing at the Eagle Raceways, is it really worth it? But I won't belabor the fact anymore. Everyone of you know exactly where you stand on this issue, and you know why it is being brought to you today. So with that, I will let you make your own mind up, and I will not try to go off in the air and start talking about something that really doesn't affect what we are talking about.

SENATOR WARNER: No further lights...Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just quickly, Mr. President and members of the body, I appreciate Senator Nelson's remarks and I think she knows better than to make those particular allegations, but she has said them consistently, so at least she is consistent on that. People in North Platte don't get anything from this bill at all. They have rodeos out there as they do in Burwell. They have rodeos out there and certainly the Copenhagen, Skoal, and other companies are very strong supporters of the pro rodeo circuit, period, and whether this bill or any other bill is introduced, they could ban it totally,