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FLOOR DEBATE

April 3, 2001            LB 398, 461A, 516, 657, 692

presentations on television Sunday. This old white gentleman, dressed like they dress a typical corporate person, looked to me like his teeth has been ground down in front from chewing tobacco...chewing cigars, and he probably called them "ce-gars" when he goes down south, "cigars" when he goes other places, and he looked right in the camera and he said words to this effect...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..."I represent the tobacco industry. Because we believe truth in advertising," or something like that, "we are not going to sell any more products that harm the public. The public's confidence and welfare mean more to us than anything else. April Fool." I thought that was so witty and so clever and so in keeping with the tactics of the tobacco industry. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, items for the record?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hilgert, an amendment to LB 398; Senator Wickersham to LB 657; Senator Beutler to LB 516. A new A bill, Mr. President, LB 461A by Senator Bromm. (Read by title for the first time.) That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 1329-1333.)

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Back with amendment to AM1331 to LB 692. Senator Jensen, followed by Senators Byars, Kristensen and Chambers. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, this last year I served on an infant mortality task force and we met several times to look at why, as the nation was seeing a decline in infant mortality from about 1997 on, Nebraska not only saw an incline but we were number one in the nation per capita with infant mortality. And we started to look at that and we also saw that the black population was much higher. I happened to get just today from the March of Dimes a data book for policymakers, and there's a couple of things that really stand out in there. First of all, African-American