

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I just would repeat, I did identify, I thought quite specifically, that the funds are targeted. It seems to me that is appropriate. There are a host of programs that exist now in terms of education, and it seems to me that the bill as it was, there was kind of a smorgasbord of functions. I think research is a proper role to be using and have it directed toward cancer and smoking related and associated diseases. That is not as narrow as it maybe sounds. That can be in itself quite broad and I would hope that the body would support the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is the adoption of the Warner amendment to LB 506. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Okay, record.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to adopt the Warner amendment. I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried. Now, Senator Kahle, do you wish to speak to the bill?

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President, members, very briefly, first of all, I want to explain, if you have looked in your bill book, you will notice there were four or five opponents to the bill when it came up. I think to a person these were all concerned with the putting on the tax stamps on the cigarettes, and as Senator Hefner mentioned, they proved to us that they do need the five percent in order to do this. So the opponents really didn't have anything to do with where the money was going to go or even whether there would be one cent put on. I wanted to clarify that. This bill, I think, is one of the first times that we have allotted cigarette money to something that I personally believe it belongs, in the category it belongs in, and that is the research of diseases related to smoking, and we have spent a lot of money in Nebraska and which we all know about for a lot of good things with cigarette tax but this is one that looks to me like it is very much related to what we are trying to do. The other thing Senator Cullan mentioned that certain areas of our state have a high incidence of cancer. I happen to live in one of those areas or in the area that was mentioned by Dr. Rosenlof at the hearing and I lost a couple of cousins to cancer and we have lost a couple of young people in our neighborhood in the last three or four years, and when you think of the total population of our area, it is a high incidence of cancer. So I certainly support the bill. Thank you.