

about to do it, you are going to encourage illicit trade in the tobacco industry. If you don't think that is not true, you probably saw Sixty Minutes a year or so ago when they showed you illicit trade around New Jersey and New York by the semitrucks. I understand the state's financial problem but those are not new. Those financial problems have been looming on the horizon for the last three years. The indicators were all there. So here we are again. We're going to tax cigarettes because that is easy and not many people, including the smokers, are going to argue very much. A question of Senator Carsten. He smokes a pipe and cigarettes I noticed. Senator Carsten, when we put taxes on cigarettes why didn't we ever tax tobacco, snuff, pipes and other paraphernalia that you use in the tobacco industry?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Why didn't we?

SENATOR KOCH: Why didn't we?

SENATOR CARSTEN: As I recall....

SENATOR KOCH: Had too many cigar smokers in here?

SENATOR CARSTEN: I beg your pardon?

SENATOR KOCH: Did we have too many cigar smokers in here that we couldn't get them?

SENATOR CARSTEN: As I recall when we attempted to do that it was at a time when they were stamping the packs of cigarettes and the cigarette industry, even though we tried to do it on pipe tobacco and others, but the stamping process was not adapted to the stamping of the other tobacco materials.

SENATOR KOCH: Oh, it is impossible to stamp a can of Prince Albert or Club 69 or Cherry 69 or whatever those exotic tobaccos are?

SENATOR CARSTEN: That is what the tobacco industry was telling us at that time, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Oh, I will take your word for that. But I am serious when I am saying this body I believe is taking some very indiscriminate action in an attempt to increase our general revenue fund. We added a penny tax last year on cigarettes for cancer research and health related researches to the Med Center. Now here we are again coming back, going to ask this time not for just a penny but a rather significant increase and I am opposed to it and I hope most of the body would be opposed to it as well. I agree with what was said by Senator