

have a prescription under Medicaid, and the pharmacist says, can we substitute, it would save you money, and they have to go back to the doctor to get permission. It is all kind of a problem right now, and this would allow it to be automatically substituted through a generic drug use. In addition, the Ritalin that is under this Schedule II is a narcotic that is sometimes used and abused as a street drug. By allowing generic substitution, you have, instead of a clearly identifiable Ritalin brand name street drug, you have a generic substitute and you can't identify whether or not, in fact, it is Ritalin. There is a chance that we can cutoff some of the utilization of Ritalin illegally in our state by having the generic drugs utilized. I think that is a good thing as well. So this piece of legislation should be advanced and I would ask your support for its advancement, and I would answer any questions if there are any on the legislation.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion? If not, the question is the advancement of the bill. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 353.

PRESIDENT: LB 353 is advanced. LB 48, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 48 was a bill that was introduced by Senator Dierks, Chambers, Nelson, Schellpeper, Hefner, Lamb, Crosby, and Hartnett. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 5, referred to the Health Committee for a hearing, advanced to General File. I have committee amendments pending by the Health and Human Services Committee, Mr. President. (See page 474 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, are you going to take the amendments? All right.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. President and members, the Health and Human Services Committee did hear LB 48. LB 48 was introduced by Senator Dierks and Senator Schellpeper, on the committee, Senator Chambers, Nelson, Hefner, Lamb, Crosby and Hartnett. The bill deals with a subject that has been before this Legislature before and the committee dealing with the question of smokeless tobacco and its free distribution. The bill calls for banning the free distribution of smokeless