

tobacco. The committee only needed to have technical amendments to the bill. They would insert "smokeless" in front of tobacco products where listed to make it clear that we are not dealing with all tobacco products but only with smokeless tobacco products, and in addition in the definition of distribute, we add an "or" to the definition to make it clear on what is included under the definition of distribute. So with that I would ask for the committee amendments to be adopted, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nelson, did you wish to talk about the committee amendments?

SENATOR NELSON: I could wait for the bill but I might add that it is a little technical amendment and it was added so that for sure the bill only addresses smokeless products and not other tobacco products.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Did you wish to close on that, Senator Wesely? The question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Dierks, would you like to explain your bill, please?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, sir. Mr. President and members of the body, LB 48 was introduced again this year. This has been before the body in the committee for several years, and last year we finally got it out of committee, but it was a short session and we didn't have time to address it. This year we got it out of committee early. It is a very simple bill. The bill does one thing, mainly, and that is to forbid the free gift of smokeless tobacco to anyone in the State of Nebraska. Admittedly, we are aiming at the youth because once the youth are tempted and have been given these free samples, they become addicted and they go ahead and use it then the rest of their lives. It is impossible to regulate by age because of a number of things, one of them being the use of machines that you can buy these products from, although you can't at this time buy smokeless tobacco. It seems to be legally difficult to control at the age of 18 years and under. So the bill actually calls