

also put some responsibility to the minor who takes sampling that is caught. If we are really serious, the tobacco industry said to themselves about stopping minors, which we are, we are going to support tougher restrictions on our own people and the minors that are, in fact, taking free samplings. And, in fact, that is what the amendment that I am proposing does. It takes many of the restrictions that have been given...taken in California and added, against the tobacco industry's wishes, but in Nebraska the tobacco industry is not only saying, please, do so, the tobacco industry offered the amendment in the committee, which I was disappointed the committee did not feel worthy enough to take up those particular amendments. The tobacco industry not only is willing to support the California type amendments in Nebraska, but they have added tougher standards even than California in regards to stopping minors from getting addicted to this product. That is what the amendment does. What I am saying to the body, if our real intent is to stop minors and our youth from becoming addicted to a tobacco product, then this amendment will do us well and good to adopt. If we are just taking a shot at a tobacco industry, which we may not, or we may or may not support and we want to attack an advertising way the tobacco industry can do so to adults, if we want to say we don't want you to advertise a product we don't like to adults, and we don't really care about the minors because they are going to be able to get the tobacco anyway with the passage of this bill, then go ahead and pass the bill as it is. This bill, if not amended, will simply say to a legitimate company, whether we agree with the product or not, we do not want you to advertise in sampling forms to adults. We don't believe that should be done. Now, ladies and gentlemen, members of the body, Mr. President, adults are going to smoke tobacco if they so desire. It is a legitimate legal product. Adults are going to buy and young people are going to obtain, and with the bill as it is now, nothing can stop that and there will be no harsher punishments for those minors who are smoking or who are using smokeless tobacco. The amendment I am proposing recognizes the fact that we have a social problem and we need punishments, we need restrictions, we need tougher standards, not only to protect our youth, but also to protect an industry's right to advertise. Now if we, as the Legislature, want to get into private enterprise, the economic system, fine, let's do that across the board, but I don't believe we want to do that. I believe what the body wants to do is to put in restrictions to help our minors not only kick a habit but to stop them from forming one, and that is what these amendments will do, and I