

citizens of our state, and there again we are aiming primarily at the youth. I have to tell you a story, a story about Sir Winston Churchill. Sir Winston was quite a drinker, you know, and one of his adversaries was a Lady Worthington, I believe, I don't remember her name for sure, but let's call her Lady Worthington for purposes of the story, and they were at the same party one day and Sir Winston had gotten drunk, and Lady Worthington came up to Sir Winston and said, Sir Winston, you are drunk, you are terribly drunk, you are abominably drunk. And he looked at her and he said, Lady Worthington, you are ugly, you are terribly ugly, you are abominably ugly. Tomorrow I will be sober. And tomorrow, with this attachment, this bill will still be ugly. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Senator Dierks, I like your story, and with or without the amendment, the bill may be ugly tomorrow, who knows, but anyway I rise in support of Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment to the bill, because I think if you read the bill and listen to what the proponents have said so far, they don't jive. I mean the bill says that...it lays out that the people that are going to be prohibited from using the product are going to be adults. There is no provision in here that gets, I think, to the issue of children as all the proponents said they would like to see happen. Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment does that. We have heard time and time again that we want to keep it from the youth, and that this is a bill that is primarily directed at the youth, but yet without adopting the Bernard-Stevens amendment, you don't achieve that. There, currently, in statute is no provision that makes it a crime for a young person to have in his or her possession tobacco, and if the issue is one where this is an evil, it is something that is addictive, something that is a threat to one's own life, then there should be provisions in law, like we do with things such as alcohol, that requires a penalty for those individuals who have it in their possession and who are underage. You don't have that in LB 48 as it is drafted. It is not there, and there is not a provision in law right now that allows for that. There is a provision that allows for a penalty for someone who sells it to a minor, but should a minor have a package of cigarettes or a can of chewing tobacco or pouch of chewing tobacco in their possession, that is not against the law. There is no provision that prohibits that. There is no penalty provided for that action.