

am trying to do with my amendment is say if we truly want to put some other pressures to bear to have an impact on our young, then what we must do is put (A) further restrictions on the companies that may, in fact, be giving free samples to our youth, and which the companies know they dare not do that. The companies are trying themselves to stop giving free samplings of all of their employees (sic). In fact, the bill came up a little faster than I anticipated. I thought tort reform would be there. If the bill would have come up tomorrow, I would have had a letter on your desk from one of the highest officials in the smokeless tobacco industry stating that they would, in the State of Nebraska, even put an advertising campaign together for all public schools in all states Nebraska showing why it shouldn't be done and showing the benefits of why the amendment that I am proposing is, in fact, the best thing for them. They support stricter restrictions, if you wish. Now, Senator Nelson, I do have to comment. I do take a little personal offense, not much, because I know you seriously believe in what you are trying to do and your heart is in the right place, but I do take a little offense when, in fact, there is a veiled innuendo that a rodeo in North Platte, Nebraska receives eight to ten thousand dollars from the smokeless tobacco industry for the rodeo, and without sampling, I am going to lose my little rodeo and that will hurt Nebraskaland Days. I do get a little irritated about that and I will try to keep my voice under control. I don't sell out for \$10,000 for anything, if it is dealing with our youth, period. What I am trying to say is that this bill, if we are truly trying to support and help our children, needs the Bernard-Stevens amendment to do so, and I will be quite frank with you. I think if the bill, LB 48 passed, I still think the Copenhagen Skoal Company would be in Nebraskaland Days rodeo because it is a good way for them to advertise their product to the highest users of their products, that being adults, and that would not stop. The Bernard-Stevens amendment puts further restrictions where no restrictions have gone before. The Bernard-Stevens amendment has gotten the tobacco industries, themselves, to produce further restrictions on themselves in an area regarding minors. The Bernard-Stevens amendment also puts some responsibility to the minors involved for the first time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I hope we support the Bernard-Stevens amendment, if we truly want to help our young people of this