

amendment, is that right?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes, Mr. President and members, since Senator Hall can't be here today, I told him I would be glad to discuss this amendment for him. What it simply does is strike in the bill language that has to do with everybody and simply puts in "minor". I know Senator Dierks and others who support this, and I support the concept as well, are primarily concerned with minors. I think it is important to have then in the bill language that would obviously identify who this bill would apply to. I think the concern generally for minors in the use of this product is obvious. I also very strongly feel, and I should point this out to you now, that I think kids that do this and have possession of it should be responsible for their own actions as well. I passed out for you an article that was in Sunday's World-Herald. It had to do with tickets issued to minors for possession of alcohol. You might have gotten it by now. I just want to point out to you that, in fact, kids are ticketed. They are not supposed to have alcohol, they are not supposed to be in possession and they are cited for it, and that is as it should be, but also they ought to be cited when they have smokeless tobacco in their possession as well. And why not? We're not penalizing the kids at all. Nothing is changing except making the kids responsible for their own actions as they should be. You know as you know or maybe don't know as well, too, I think the concern for the minors not only involves smokeless tobacco, but, by the way, if you know who to write to you can get drug stimulants through the mail. They don't ask you how old you are. You can get guns. I don't know what they call a handgun, but you can buy a gun if you want to if you write to the right person. You can get a firearm. If you want alcohol, there is an 800 number you can call. I know people that sell vodka, for example, and they will send you samples of this through the mail. So I think the issue as it applies to in the legislation that has to do with mail order is an important and reasonable problem that applies in the case of this bill to smokeless tobacco. But I would like to see somehow an amendment or a separate bill with the mail order thing taken out or as part of the issue, a legislation developed that would provide for minors in possession of not only smokeless tobacco, but minors in possession of firearms, drugs, stimulants and alcohol as well. All of us sometime have to be accountable for our own actions. It is never too early to start when you're a minor. I talked about this in committee and I want you to know that I understand the seriousness of this kind of a habit. If you were