

responsible for their own actions. They don't want to say, yeah, this is life-threatening, if you chew you're off the team or you're suspended for a year; no, they don't want to do that, but they want the Legislature, and when she says, Coach Osborne's wife says, or anybody else says, the Legislature should be ashamed because they don't do this, shame on you. Look at your own self first. See how you've applied the same standards you expect us and other people to apply to other people, and if you don't apply it to yourself, don't talk to us about it. That kind of hypocrisy bothers me. Right now we have a policy in the state that it's against the law for them to give this to minors. We don't have in this state a law that prohibits...that penalizes kids who have smokeless tobacco. We have a law that says you can be fined and ticketed and cited if you have possession of alcohol or if you illegally have guns or if you're driving your car in a wrongful way, we have all kinds of things that apply to kids for that, but not for this. They say, we don't want to do that because we're only penalizing the kids. There again, I say there is an obvious inconsistency. It's a terrible habit. Everybody might agree to that, some maybe more than others. However, it seems to me that, you know, I have mixed emotions about indefinitely postponing because to prohibit, to make the law stronger and apply penalties, it would be fine with me if they give it to kids, and to make sure that where this product is distributed they take all precautions to make sure that it never happens that it gets to kids. But the best bill would be that we keep what we've got, we establish some penalties that make sense and we make sure the kids are also responsible. We had a couple amendments that tried to do that and for some reason they didn't want to even consider those. So maybe...I'm not sure what I'm going to do. I might vote against indefinitely postponing with the hope that the bill won't move today and with, in fact, the hope that the well-meaning people on both sides of this issue get together and maybe hopefully discuss some of the things I mentioned, overcoming the obvious hypocrisy that is developing now on the floor.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Conway, please, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I have not been up on this issue at all up until now and a couple of points that I think are very appropriate to consider, and I think that Senator David Bernard-Stevens has offered a very