

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Just a brief comment and we'll move on to the other business we have on General File that has been needing to get...to be gotten to for two days now. All I'm asking the body to do is I do not want this bill killed because we have a chance now to really do something for the citizenry of this state in regards to cancer, oral cancer and tobacco products. All I'm asking to do, and members of this body who have been here for quite a while I think understands how this works. Sometimes to get two groups together, and, again, I asked Senator Dierks very politely today if he would hold off until Wednesday of next week so that we'd have a chance to get the two groups together and he simply refused, saying I don't want to talk, I don't want to do that. Even if it was to the point where we could come to a better bill that would really help the youth of our state. There is an intransigence, they do not want to talk. What I'm asking the body to do is not to vote against the bill. Maybe you just don't want to vote on this particular one so we don't have 25 votes to advance. That makes both sides a little nervous and it puts a little hammer out there saying that you'd better talk, the body is tired of this nonsense of both these groups going at it at this particular bill. We want you to get together and come up with something that can really be effective that both can agree to. I give you my word, as it comes up on General File next, if it does not advance today, that I will not fight it on General File. I will let it go its natural course. I cannot say what would happen on Select File, but I think it is a reasonable approach to try to get this issue solved so that we can do something for cancer and for oral cancer and our children and also the adults. That is the intent, that is from me from my heart saying that's what I want to do, if we can do so. And I ask the body's indulgence to allow this process to truly work to see what we can come up with. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, followed by Senator Abboud.

SENATOR NELSON: I shall make this as brief as I possibly can. I, too, am getting very tired of this and I think it's senseless to be on one bill like this long. May I relate to you, I think I was questioned on the Minnesota law. The promotion or distribution and it is in their Section 325F.77, subsection 3, Legislative Intent: Because the state prohibits both the use of tobacco products by minors, and the furnishing of tobacco products to minors, and because of the enforcement of an