

brief discussion of the amendment, LB 48 is attempting to do an admiral goal. It is attempting to stop young people and old people, adults if you wish, from using smokeless tobacco. By doing so, the authors of LB 48 have stated that we're not going to ban the product, we're not going to make it illegal to buy, we're simply going to say that companies offering smokeless tobacco as a product cannot give out a free sample. That's it. It will also ban couponing so that you cannot mail a coupon and get a free sample in the mail. And in essence, that is what LB 48 does in its present form. I don't know about members of the body and the people in your district, but I know the youth in the District 42 that I'm at and the young people that I'm aware of that chew smokeless tobacco are going to choose smokeless tobacco regardless of if you ban a free sample to an adult. The point is, is after LB 48 passes in its original form, it will still be a legal product for adults to buy. Minors, many times, look as if they are over 18 years of age. It is not against the law for a minor to purchase and possess smokeless tobacco or any tobacco product according to LB 48. My point is that passage of LB 48, regardless of what the Dental Association has in its zealously towards this bill, regardless of what they've told their membership, LB 48 will not stop young people from getting smokeless tobacco from adults who can legally buy it on the market. LB 48 will not stop young people from being able to buy, purchase and possess smokeless tobacco. The key here now is, it is against the law for them to use it, so if we sneak around in the bushes and find them using it or look for that telltale spit, we might be able to track it to the mouth of the person that is doing it and now we can do something.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bernard-Stevens, may I interrupt a second. The lights have been coming off and off and I really don't know how much time you've used, but I think it's about nine minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I was counting, it was seven.

PRESIDENT: Oh, is that right?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Yes.

PRESIDENT: Shall we split it?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I'll buy that.