

amendment. You should know that the purpose of the legislation to begin with is very, I consider very honorable. It does only one thing. It stops the tobacco industry from giving free samples of smokeless tobacco to the citizens of Nebraska and that, in effect, helps to reduce the amount of oral cancer that we see. It helps to reduce the amount of addiction to an addictive product that we see and we're all very familiar with the problems of addiction in this state whether it be nicotine, alcohol or controlled substances. If this...this is just one little way for us to say, hey look, folks, we're going to try to help the citizens of this state and this bill, LB 48, the way it is drafted, would do that and I have no problem with this amendment to Bernard-Stevens amendment because I think that we still strengthen the bill and provide, like I said, a spirit of compromise. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Bernard-Stevens, then Senator Nelson.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I think I'm starting to get upset. I haven't gotten there yet, but I think I'm getting there. Now when I went to Political Science classes and I took Political Science 101, one of the key things they like for you to do in those classes, they like you to memorize terms. One of the terms that I needed to memorize at some point was the term "compromise", and I loved that term compromise. I've been trying to compromise with Senator Dierks since the day this bill was incepted and I got nothing. I got a response from the Dental Association, from Senator Dierks, no, sir, no amendments, take it or leave it, and a funny thing happened on the way to Select File and Final Reading. They didn't have the votes. A funny thing happened when they came up last time to pass it, straight shot from Select File to Final Reading, we laid it over. Why? They were afraid they didn't have the votes. So now we get to the word compromise. I always thought compromise was a middle ground found between two opposing sides. I was never in negotiations with this amendment to the amendment. I know Senator Moore wasn't in negotiations with the amendment to the amendment. The only thing I see a compromise here is between Senator Dierks and Paul O'Hara and the Dental Association. They've compromised among themselves. I find it fascinating because, it's a corny phrase, but doggone it, we were in the room with Senator Barrett, and Senator Dierks, in that room, stated that he would allow my amendment to get a straight shot, complete, as is, if we would pull all of our amendments away and give him a straight