

70 students from Westside High in Omaha. They are on a field trip, and also Senator Goodrich and Senator Ashford are both senators in that district and they are here for a hearing today and we welcome you. Would you folks please stand. The...I'm looking for the...Mr. Joe Higgins is their instructor. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you. We also have 15 journalism students from Kearney State College with their instructor Beth Barrett in the east balcony. They are guests of Senator Langford. Would you folks please stand. And lastly but not leastly, Senator Korshoj has 47 Extension Group people from Washington County and they are in the north balcony and also in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you, all of you, for visiting us today. Senator Nelson, please. Okay, Senator Nelson, just a moment. You are the last light that I have on. Now all the lights have come off and on. Is there anyone else that wishes to speak on this matter, that is on the Dierks amendment to the Bernard-Stevens amendment? Anyone else, because the lights are off? If not, thank you, Senator Nelson, we'll...did you want to speak?

SENATOR NELSON: I'll take advantage of it if it is the last light on here. I didn't intend to, but I truly feel that this debate has gone on after day after day, hour after hour, anything at all to muddy the waters, anything at all to defeat the purpose of the bill. Simply, Senator Stevens amendment would have gutted the bill entirely, the Section 1 I am supporting in compromise and all of you know the problems with the smokeless tobacco, the oral cancer, the high school kids getting worse instead of better and right on down the line. So in the effort of compromise, I support Senator Dierks' amendment to the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dierks, would you like to close on your amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR DIERKS: I would. Mr. President, members of the body, I guess I'm a little bit concerned that there is so much querulousness on the part of this thing. I really felt that I had a valid amendment to the amendment. I had listened to what the amendment had done. There were parts of it that I didn't like, but I felt that there was a part of it that we could accept and that's what the amendment to the amendment does. It makes that part acceptable. If we vote the amendment without this amendment to the amendment, what you do is actually gut