

picture as well as helping our minors as much as possible. It also stiffens the penalties for...

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...those people who would abuse the substance and give it to minors. Mr. President, I think the body is well aware of what the amendment does, by now. I'd be certainly free to answer any questions anyone has, otherwise, I would urge the body and hope that the body would agree to the amendment and the bill move on for final passage. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Bernard-Stevens amendment to LB 48, Senator Moore, followed by Senators Nelson and Dierks. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: I really don't have a lot to add. I don't want to carry this on any longer than we have, and as I said, this amendment still doesn't stop the free giving away to the youth and everyone has to make up their mind how they want to support the bill or if they do or if they don't and, in essence, guts the bill. And with that, I'm ready to take a vote. I'll turn it over to Senator Dierks if he wants any more of my time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Dierks, yours is the next light.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I only want to reiterate one thing, that is that the amendment that you're voting on guts LB 48. It removes all the language we've worked for. It reduces the amount of work we've been through in committee and on General File and so far what we have done on Select File. And I have a little problem with some of the explanations, especially this business about oral cancer and he says only 38. That "only" kind of strikes me as a little bit strange for describing the number of deaths that occur in this state and even if only one of those were due to smokeless tobacco, why, the one that we could prevent by not allowing the distribution of these free products would be ample reason to pass LB 48. I object to the amendment. I think it just guts LB 48, so with that, I'd like to urge your defeat of this amendment. Thank you.