

have any sort of enforcement provision that has made it a workable piece of legislation. So what we have found is a problem that's been long-standing, for 10 years we've said we've got an act but we can't really deal with the provisions of the act. And so I think Senator Wehrbein has come forward now and proposed a way in which we can come forward and deal with this in a reasonable fashion. Now I understand there are some businesses that are concerned. But we did sit down, in the Public Health and Wel...the Health and Human Services Committee, and work out amendments that have dealt with a lot of the concerns of businesses. Now there remains those that represent the tobacco interests, the smoking interests, they do not like the legislation, I understand that. But you've got to think beyond the lobbying force and beyond those individuals that have a very vested interest in this and think about the broader expanse of people in this state. And there what you find is a great support for this sort of legislation. Yes, there are many people very concerned about protecting the rights of the smokers, and they do have rights under this legislation. It's just that those nonsmokers out there that for so long have suffered, under a situation that we thought we'd solved ten years ago, have put demands on this Legislature to deal with this problem now for some time, and I think we need to listen to those voices, though they aren't very well organized. Though they don't really have a lobbyist down here representing them, they nevertheless deserve to be heard. Now, in addition, I think, as Senator Dierks said, there are public health considerations that need to be followed. The public health would dictate that some measures to restrict smoking is wise. Yes, individuals that smoke endanger their own health, but it's also known that in certain environments and in closed settings that smoke will affect others around them. Senator Conway and his environment right around him right now is polluting the air, and Senator Baack could die from it some day, and Senator Nelson. We probably wouldn't be that concerned. But I care a great deal about (laughter) Senator Baack and Senator Nelson, so we want to make sure that they have a clean environment. Senator Conway, he can do what he wants to, but, for those around him, we need to look out for their interests. Right now we're not doing that, and I think legislation to protect those interests makes sense. Now this Chamber is a very large Chamber, it's a situation that is different than an enclosed setting in a work environment where you simply can't escape the smoke. Here when Senator Hannibal lights up I just kind of move away a little bit. But I can't move far because Senator Warner