

using the illegal substances or selling illegal substances, alcohol to minors, illegal for minors to possess, let's include the substance that does the most damage in this country. I think it is only right. I might not disagree with everything in the bill, but if we are going to get this bill in the correct shape, we definitely need to include alcohol some time or another. Because if you want to address the drug problem in my district, you will address the drug of alcohol. Too many people in my district, and I suppose in a lot of your districts, still say, thank goodness, my kids are only drinking. At least they are not doing drugs. That attitude is still prevalent out there all across the state, and it is wrong. I don't care if it is the American way. It is breaking into your manhood or cutting your teeth, or whatever, to go out and get drunk with the boys, if you will. It is doing a lot of damage in the country. It is doing a lot of damage in my district to minors. If you want to address the drug problem in my district, you will include alcohol because it is number one, and it is number one in the state and in the country. And I would hope we could tack this on somehow to address Senator Hall's concerns because I think he is correct. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schimek, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body. Senator Chambers, I would like to be the first to say that "Liz" Karnes was right and, frankly, you have hit one of my hot buttons here. I think that this is an issue that is something that affects all of us. I was shocked to see the editorial in the Omaha World-Herald, on March 26th which said that the Commission on Drugs, of which "Liz" Karnes is a member, should not address this particular problem in its report, as I understood it anyway, I don't have that right in front of me, and I really am rising to support I guess the concept of what Senator Chambers was talking about. But like Senator Morrissey and Senator Hall, it looks as if there might be problems in incorporating this into this bill, so I would like to encourage some of us to put our heads together and see if there is some other way that we might address this problem. I don't know, Senator Pirsch, I think that it is an illegal drug for those under 21 years of age, and it is something that we need to talk about, whether we can talk about it in this bill or not, I am not certain, but I hope that we don't let this matter drop. It is the most serious problem, I think, and if we choose to ignore