

policy that, you know, people can do whatever they want and we want government off our back. And Senator Hefner is a good example that 9 times out of 10, 99 times out of 100 he's going to say, keep government out of my life, I don't...I want very limited government, I want the scope of government to be very limited, I don't want government intrusion in my decision making. That's the way he wants it in his business. When it comes down to this issue, there are many members of the body that say, nah, we don't mean it when it comes to this, because tobacco's so bad. One of the most frustrate...couple things are very frustrating about this issue. The first one is that if you support Senator Baack's bill, you are immediately classified as someone being bought, purchased, paid for by the tobacco industry, that is what immediately comes to everybody's mind. Given the fact that you historically...someone like my...I mean two years ago I got involved in this battle because I actually lost my temper on the floor when some things were being said, at that point in time the tobacco industry had never, ever spoke to me. Have they since then? Yes, they have. But I share their general philosophy that people should be allowed to do what they want to do. It comes down to, if you want to talk about protecting human beings, protecting Nebraskans, I mean where do you want to draw the line. I mean do you want to make everybody drive buses with four inch pads on them so they can't get hurt? Do you want to require people to wear helmets in cars? Do we want to say that you can't be over 200...you can't be overweight? That would get me in a hurry, I'll tell you that, because I'm certainly overweight. And there are a variety of things there that if you want to protect people, you know, the sky is truly the limit. And this issue comes down to, one for me, is that I'm one of those people that fervently believes that less government intrusion in my life the better off I am. And certainly that is not absolute. There are certainly times when the government should be involved. This is one of those where I think you're taking a little step too long. And for Nebraska, we're the only state that's taking a step quite this severe. And two years ago, when we passed this bill, we said, well, we can be a leader, Nebraska can be a leader. That has not happened. There's been a couple states that have done something less than Nebraska. We're not a leader. We're an island. And I'm sure if you ask Senator Dierks and others, well, that doesn't mean we should backtrack at all. Another thing is probably the key of the issue to me, particularly on Senator Baack's bill, is that we're still not...Senator Baack's bill isn't a bill that says, it shall hereby be enacted that you give