

substance in this state, so that...so that...so by precluding a certain section of that industry from proceeding with their own business, we are talking governmental interference here. Senator Hefner said he believes in free enterprise. Well, I think you either believe in it, or you don't. And I think you try and promote it to the ultimate. And I think you allow business to operate. He believes in free enterprise only as far...only as long as he agrees with the product. I believe in free enterprise, totally. I think that the businesses ought to be allowed to operate. If we put on a...if we would come to the point where we said, okay, we're going to outlaw tobacco products in this state, then that's a different story, then we start talking about really dealing with the health issue, I think. But in this case we're only dealing with such a minor part of a health issue, and we're only dealing with one minor entity of the tobacco industry. I think part of it is unwillingness for the body to take on the entire tobacco industry, I don't think they're ready to do that, because I think that adults like that product, there are adults that use that product, and we should not be precluding them from using it. Senator Hefner said he can't believe this is a priority bill. I thought the newspapers were the only ones that didn't understand what priority bill meant, but I guess there's even members in the Legislature don't understand what it means. Priority bill means simply a bill that a legislator would like to have heard. It doesn't mean that it's a priority for the state. It doesn't mean that. That's not what it means. It means that this is a bill that I'd like to have heard. I imagine that, if we went through the list, we could probably find a whole lot of absurd priority bills, if we're saying that this is a priority for the state, because many of them deal with very specific entities, only help a few people. That's not what priority means. Priority is simply a designation that this is a bill that I wanted the Legislature to hear. I feel very strongly that we made a mistake, two years ago, with LB 48. And I don't think that we should continue that mistake. I think we put into place a statute, in Nebraska, that says Nebraska is not open to all business. Nebraska is open to business, as long as we agree with the business you're in. But, if we happen to disagree with the business you're in, we'll put something in statute that says you can't proceed with your business in a normal fashion in our state. We're the only state of the 50 that does this, the only one. We don't want that in our statutes, I don't think. I think we want to change that. And I think that the bill that I have does that.