

we allow free samples for what is a proven addictive drug? Now if they want to win them over on advertising, they have a great advertising budget, but you can't always do it alone on advertising. You've got to get somebody to take a taste, you've got to get someone to take a puff so they can get the nicotine flowing through the blood, so you can create the craving, so you can guarantee your market. So don't tell me that this...that if we do this, then we have to go to fast cars and skateboards and the whole show. Look at the number of deaths, look at the number of deaths involved in this issue alone. It's astronomical. This is, because tobacco is a deadly product, an addictive product, it has itself proven that it needs to be treated differently than other issues that you are bringing up. It's not that outlandish. I wonder how many people, how the enforcement of Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment is going to go. I would hope it would work, but it is a drug and it is the gateway drug, folks, for all other drugs. I can remember when I was 8-years-old setting under the railroad track behind the ball diamond, Mike Keim offered me my first cigarette and you want to talk to any drug addict in the country, I'd almost guarantee you 90 percent of them started on cigarettes. You can talk about alcohol, you can talk about pot all you want as a gateway drug, this is the gateway drug, in my opinion, and if you want to talk to these people, I think you'll find out that what I'm saying would prove out. It's a drug, it's very addictive, it should be treated differently than all these other things that we bring up, fast cars, bungee cord jumping, parachute jumping, it's very different, folks, and if the tobacco industry can't survive without giving out free samples, then they need to hire some new PR people. If they can't come up with a new cool lookin' Marlboro man riding off in the sunset or the new Camel guy, real hip looking Camel with his neat shades and his leather jacket on, impress the young people with, well, then they're just going to have to spend a little more money and hire some better PR people. They do not need, and we do not need to allow them...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...to pass out the samples so children and adults both will get the taste and get started on the road to addiction. I wish somebody had had the ability to enforce these laws on me when I was younger and prevent me from ever getting started smoking cigarettes. I'd urge you to support the amendment. Thanks.