

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator, I believe that your amendment to this bill strikes the entire bill as well as the Bernard-Stevens amendment. Is that correct?

SENATOR MOF SEY: Yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That concerns me because I really like the Bernard-Stevens amendment and I am wondering if there is some way that we could possibly, if this were to be adopted, if your amendment were to be adopted, if we could amend the Bernard-Stevens amendment back onto it on Select File. Would that be a possibility and would you be agreeable to that?

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Yeah, certainly, I support Senator Stevens' amendment, too, and I think it would add to this. I think we need to do that. I would be supportive of it, doing it at any time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. Senator Morrissey, I'm rising in support of your amendment and I wasn't going to talk on this bill because I think I did a lot of talking last year and I talked on my mammogram bill this morning and I was just going to listen to the debate, but I'll tell you what changed my mind. I went to the hospital this noon and I visited my father who is in the hospital in very, very serious condition, complications from emphysema, ladies and gentlemen, and I guess I feel very strongly that when we give away tobacco products, I don't care if they are smokeless tobacco products, if they're cigarettes, I don't care what they are, that in a sense we're giving away death, that Senator Chambers talked about. Why should we be enticing young people to start down that long path of addiction that we know where it ends sooner or later? I feel very strongly that this bill should not become law and that we should maintain the policy that we adopted last year. As Senator Landis, whom is a good friend of mine, talked this morning about choice and there are choices. I admit there are choices along the way that we all make that could be injurious to our health. But government, too, has always made choices to make it less easy for people to be harmed. I mean, we have traffic lights, we have stop signs, we've outlawed pesticides and herbicides, some of them, we have a Food and Drug Administration which daily on a daily basis looks at different drugs and their harmful effects, outlaw some. I mean we have a long history of government being involved in taking away some of the really