

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. You've heard Senator Morrissey's closing on his amendment. We will now proceed to vote on the amendment offered by Senator Morrissey. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk. Record vote has been requested.

CLERK: (Read record vote as found on pages 2381-82 of the Legislative Journal.) 10 ayes, 22 nays, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: The motion fails.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wesely would move to amend the bill. (Wesely amendment appears on pages 2382-83 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, Mr. President, this will just take a couple of seconds. Senator Landis had a proposal to raise the cigarette tax 3 cents, to put into more buildings. I thought if we were going to discuss that topic, which evidently we aren't, that we could talk about raising it to do some things for people that perhaps is more important than construction. The 3-cent increase in cigarette tax, that I just suggested here to provide an alternative to that other proposal, would put \$600,000 into the public health service system that would cover the State of Nebraska. It would bring us up to the 185 percent of poverty for pregnant women, and provide for prenatal care. We would be able to do the mammography bill of Senator Schimek, provide that across the State of Nebraska. We would be able to vaccinate children across the State of Nebraska that are unable to afford childhood vaccine. We would be able to provide for a month of ADC transition, to take people off of ADC. All this made possible by the increase in the cigarette tax that was envisioned. I'm only raising this point because it seems to me that as we talk about the cigarette tax, it's considered sacred that the cigarette tax go into capital construction. The cigarette tax can go to more construction. It can go into human service programs, and it can do a lot of good in moving in that direction. And the next time we revisit the issue of cigarette taxes, I hope that we will consider other ways of utilizing cigarette tax revenues. I also note in general on the bill, LB 760, I have opposed it, will continue to oppose it. I think that the project in there, many are worthy. But it seems to me