

discussion on General File, and at least come to a vote on that bill today, and I will also tell you that this will be the last bill of the day because Senator Chambers has decided that he is not going to take up LB 327 this year. He will wait until next session to do that. But I would, you know, I would appreciate the opportunity to have a chance to take a vote on my priority bill this session, and either way, whether, I guess whether it advances or not, it will be carried over to next session, but it is something that I believe very strongly in. It is something that I think that we should do is that we should make our laws consistent in this state. When we talk about sampling of tobacco products, it ought to be consistent. And if we outlaw the sampling in one area, we ought to do it in all areas, and we don't do that in this state, and the body voted not to do that. They voted not to prohibit the sampling in the other areas, so I think now in essence of fairness we ought to go back and repeal the law that we passed a couple of years ago and say that under very, very stringent conditions, which the bill provides for now, there can be sampling of tobacco products to consenting adults. Oh, one other thing, a few of the things that the bill does is, first of all, it eliminates mail order coupons. There will be no more mail orders for tobacco samples. It requires that an employee or agent of the manufacturer has to be the distributor of the samples. It will not allow just store clerks or anybody to be distributors of samples. It has to be employee or agent of the manufacturer. It also mandates that the revocation of the privilege to sample in this state, if there are...if there is only one violation in a calendar year, that company's permit, they have to apply for a permit through the Secretary of State's Office now for \$100 a year, if they are caught in a violation of the law, then they automatically lose their license, and their license automatically revoked, if they have a violation of the law in one calendar year. With that, I would be happy to answer any questions about the bill. I know there is some amendments pending. We also attached an amendment, Senator Bernard-Stevens did, on making possession of tobacco illegal. I think there is a reconsideration motion on that pending. There are several other amendments pending, but I think the bill is fairly clear now. I think it is very strong, and I think that the tobacco industry tells me that they will make sure that they abide by the law, and I think that this law is very strong right now in saying that, yes, you will abide by the law, and you will follow all of the rules that we have in this state, or you will lose your ability to sample. So that is the bill, LB 577, as we have now, and I assume that we just as