

that are of legal age that are intelligent enough to make their own decisions, we're going to limit what you can have as far as sampling and we're going to tell an industry whether we like it or not. Some people like the ethanol industry; some people don't. Some people like the plastic industry; some people don't because of pollution and so on. Some people don't like the tobacco industry. That's fine, but it's a legitimate industry with a legitimate product. What we did in Nebraska is say to a legitimate company, you can't do this on your marketing; and to adults, I'm sorry, you can't have it. You can buy it. You can even give it to your kids if you want. Your kids can possess it, but we won't let adults get the free sample. That's all we did. And this bill rectifies that and says, listen, if you're going to get serious, fine, but otherwise, if we're talking about marketing a product and if we're talking adults, adults can make their own decisions for themselves. And, as Senator Nelson said herself, it was against the law before any of this garbage started a couple years ago for minors to get a free sample, it still is against the law. With 577 passed it still would be against the law. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I suppose I'm in support of Senator Chambers' amendment, but sometimes I think history and the slow development of things controls more than logic. I was just looking back to see what the law said with regard to alcohol and possession of alcohol, and basically it just says no minor shall sell or dispense or have in his or her possession or physical control any alcohol...alcoholic liquor, which is, it seems to me, there's no knowingly, there's no additional verbiage, it seems to me it's about the same thing that we're purporting to say with regard to cigarettes. And I think we're coming to the point in time in our history when we recognize that cigarettes are probably as dangerous or more dangerous than alcohol, and we're going to be, it seems to me, shortly called upon to decide why we would treat alcohol different from cigarettes with regard to the question of possession by a minor. If you...I think that the primary argument that I've always heard in the past for making a criminal offense of possession of alcohol has been simply from the enforcement point of view. Law enforcement finds it much easier to control the situation if they can nail somebody for possession, and I'm sure the day will come when that will be true for cigarettes too. But, right now, I don't think there is