

complete the sale. At vending machines, the youth placed eight coins or pennies in the vending machine. If no one questioned or stopped him, it was considered a completed sale. There were 11 attempts at vending machines, there were 11 completed sales, 100 percent. There were 21 over-the-counter attempts, there was one completed sale, 5 percent. Ladies and gentlemen, if a young person, and we are talking about the operation last night, 7-years old, if a young person has to look a clerk in the eye and ask to buy a package of cigarettes or give them their money, the likelihood is that that transaction will not be completed, particularly when you are talking about the very young child. And we know from statistics that more people start smoking at age 13 than any other age. Almost 60 percent of all smokers start by age 14, and 90 percent begin smoking by age 19. I submit to you that if we are serious about helping young people not get started on this track,...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...then we should enact this legislation as originally introduced with the committee amendments. I'd also like to say to Senator Moore and just talk a little bit more about that information that I presented earlier, Senator Moore, it is my understanding that this vendor has only cigarette vending machines or it is the largest, I correct myself, the largest vending machine operator in Nebraska. So I don't know either if the figures bear out for all vendors but I think, at least, it gives us a good picture of that. You know, anybody who has watched someone in their family or a friend who has had emphysema or lung cancer and watched them struggle with the disease would prefer that people...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...never began in the first place. Ladies and gentlemen, I think that this bill as originally amended by the committee could go further than with the Moore amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Before we proceed with debate, I would like to make some introductions to the senators. Seated under the north balcony is our doctor for the day. He is Dr. Clarence Davis, Jr. of Osceola. Welcome to the Chambers and thank you for being with us. Also special guests today of Senator Labeledz are 48 Girl Scouts from Omaha, Nebraska,