

Lincoln, Nebraska, in a study done by the Health department, that 11 attempts were made by a young looking 14-year-old boy to purchase cigarettes, completed sales were 11 or 100 percent of the time he was able to purchase. When there were 21 attempts made at over-the-counter outlets only 1 sale was completed and 5 percent were successful. What I am attempting to do here is to keep vending machines out of the...out of the reach of youngsters, of those young people who cannot probably buy over-the-counter. They're going to have to get them somewhere else, and I acknowledge to you that, in some cases, they will be able to get them from their friends or from their parents, but I think the easy access will cut down on purchases and will cut down on smoking. I would also like to say to you, Senator Haberman, that you can't smoke, of course, you can't smoke unless you possess the cigarettes but you can be in possession and not smoke. I mean, that is possible to do. I think that's why the laws were structured the way they were. And I would also suggest to you that, yes, we do have laws in place; yes, it would be very, very difficult to go out and...and arrest or cite all of those youngsters who do smoke. I'm suggesting that it would be far, far easier to regulate the placement of the vending machines than it is to regulate whether...whether the youth are picked up for smoking or not. I think that's a very difficult proposition. As you know, our law enforcement officers are already overworked. So, with that, I would just ask for your support of the amendment to strike the Moore amendment which basically allows vending machines in bars and restaurants with liquor licenses. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. We are still looking for Senator Robinson.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Madam President, when he returns I would like to have a roll call vote.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We are still looking for Senator Robinson. Senator Schimek, we cannot find Senator Robinson, do you wish to proceed?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Madam President, do we have any idea where he is? His office doesn't know?

PRESIDENT MOUL: We're getting no response.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Okay, let's begin.