

did not expect the amendment to pass. I, obviously, still don't expect the amendment to pass. I hope the amendment would pass but I am constantly amazed at this body. How terrible smoking is. How terrible the habit is. We don't even want smoke in the building. We don't want smoke in cars. We would rather not have smoke anywhere. Oh, by the way, our children who possess cigarettes and are going to smoke the cigarettes and create the smoke and create the habits that they're going to get into that it's going to be hard to break, you know what, we're going to allow them to have it, it's okay. It's okay as long as they don't...if they have that cigarette on their body, on their person, as long as they don't ever use it or as long as they never buy it, as long as it's just given to them, as Senator Pedersen once said, in a sine die skit, that's okay. And the whole hypocrisy of the issue and the situation, really, I just really have to sit back and chortle a little bit. The arguments against not allowing our young people to possess something that we don't want them to have, the arguments on the floor have been Senator Chambers puts the criminalization argument and that makes some sense to me as far as a rational argument. But now we've had arguments on, you know, if we did this, if a person broke their fingernail, they may not be able to use cigarette paper to fix it because...and then they would be a Class III misdemeanor. Well, boy, when I heard that, I'll bet you 15 people said, you know what, that is a worthwhile situation to let our kids possess cigarettes and smoke. We want them to smoke because we want them to possess, because, God forbid, if we hurt fingernails. That's the type of arguments that we're getting. Senator Janssen talks about the types of entrapments and that is true, it takes...that...those things happen, because you've got people at the local level who are so against smoking tobacco and alcohol that they've gone to these extremes. The court system, in those cases, have been the protection as far as entrapment. Senator Chambers always is adept at doing so. I've done it myself in the past. You take the most absurd example you can and say, is this what we want to criminalize this child for. And the example was going to be if somebody picked up off the street a cigarette butt, is that a criminal offense? Well, if you can name me a law enforcement official who will go down the street and see little Johnny pick up a cigarette butt and say, aha, there's a hundred dollar fine right there. I don't think that's going to happen. But I'll tell you what does happen. School districts now cannot stop kids from smoking in the school buildings, so they provide them places to smoke. Go to any major school district and go across the street off the