

school grounds, you will see the kids smoking. Do the people do anything about it? No, it's on private property, we're not going to do anything about it. If they have cigarettes in the school building, are they going to do anything about it? Well, if they bought it, we're going to do something. If they...we catch them using it, we'll do something. When they just have it and they're going to smoke it later, we'll let them have it. It's absurd. You can't take a product that is banned for them to use away from them in the school because you allow them to have it. It's absolutely absurd. If you truly believe, and I, personally, don't believe people in this body really do, if you truly believe that cigarette smoking is harmful to people, then you must at least go along and say, look, in our law we have two laws,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...we don't want our young kids to buy. We can let adults buy. We don't want our young kids to buy. We don't want our young kids to use, we'll let adults use, but not young kids. Oh, by the way, we'll go ahead and let them have it on their body so at least they'll appear to be like an adult, they can practice like being adult and they can sneak away and be just like their moms and dads and smoke too. That's what this body really wants. But if you don't want young people to smoke, you send them the message. You don't buy it. You don't use it and you can't possess it. Otherwise, all of this other argument on all these bills is simply that, a bunch of smoke. Until we realize that and get to the real issues, these bills are meaningless and will continue to be meaningless until you fight the issue. And a Class III...Class V misdemeanor, to a child, oh, by the way, minor in possession, we have that on the books.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Minor in possession, and they have a penalty. God forbid if we have a penalty for a minor in possession of an addictive...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...health hazard drug. I urge the support of the amendment.