

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

March 8, 1999

LB 574

states to actually buy into this, and they've done that, and so we've met that requirement. Now it's just that there have been suits filed in those large states challenging this agreement.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR JENSEN: Once the disposition of those suits are eliminated,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...then the money will start to be distributed.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Jensen. For further discussion, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Jensen, I was looking again at the handout that your staff gave us, which was certainly extremely helpful. It lists key dates; one of them being the date of the execution of the general agreement, the settlement agreement, the next being the state specific finality agreement, which is described as the date that the state court approves the settlement and consent decree and appeal time has run. In this particular, I assume what you're describing in a part are perhaps appeals or discussions at this...at this juncture of the proceedings in various states.

SENATOR JENSEN: That is correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right. Here in Nebraska, I assume we, too, have to have the court consent and approve of the settlement.

SENATOR JENSEN: And Nebraska has done that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And we have already done that.

SENATOR JENSEN: We are completed in that process.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And then with regard to federal taxation, the federal government for a long time has taxed cigarettes, and this really relates again perhaps more to the resolution that we worked on the other day, but if I, again if I