

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

January 12, 2000 LB 505

from that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Stuhr has just quietly said to me, David, is there something we can do on the enforcement side for money, to make it clearer and perhaps spend some more of the money that this bill creates on enforcement, and the answer to that is, yes. I need a bill on Select File and a chance to reflect on it and to look at some budget figures, figure out what the Highway Patrol needs that would not otherwise be met, come up with a number, put it into an amendment and offer it. The answer is, yes, Senator Stuhr, I could do that. And, Senator Pederson, if I need to be clearer as to how the money would be spent, if there's something else that we can do, I'd be happy to do that. Here's my suggestion. It's two o'clock. If you take a look around the room, there are some people that are missing. Some of them are down at the Revenue Committee: Senator Wickersham, Senator Raikes, Senator Redfield, Senator Hartnett. Others, I think Senator Matzke is on his way back from the Cornhusker. I think there was something over the noonhour. I'd suggest that we have a call of the house at the end of this speech, to see how many of our number are here, continue the debate for 5-10 minutes more, call the question, vote in the next 20 minutes, if that would be sufficient, if it wouldn't cut people out from any discussion that they want to have, and wrap this up with a vote. As we proceed towards that, let me give you one set of numbers and then I'm going to ask for a call of the house. First, 8,000 kids every year start smoking in Nebraska. Now that means that for the next 16 years, let's say from zip to 16, 8,000 a year, that'd be 108,000 kids from 0 to 16, 8,000 of which become smokers every year. So as they get older, they move to the age where they become smokers and it's in 13, 14, or 15. So kids that are now of tender years aren't smoking, but they're going to get to that day when they start. It'll be 108,000 of them from 0 to 16, 17. Of people who smoke, 32-33 percent ultimately die of smoking-related illnesses. Hundred and eight thousand kids are going to get hooked. About 35,000 of them will ultimately have their lives shortened by tobacco. When this bill passes, if the elasticity rule follows that MIT has said,