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Chambers, on the Landis amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I listened to "Baron" Tyson as he spoke well but not learnedly. I listened to Senator Redfield as she spoke learnedly and well. I've got to express concern about some things that the "Baron" had to say. He suggested that if the tax is increased, and it is a tax no matter how it's designated, just as in my opinion interest is a tax, which is allowed to be imposed by private individuals because you're getting nothing directly for that tax. You're getting the use of money. But if a state does not provide any services, a state cannot justify itself in levying or imposing a tax. The tax is supposed to be used to pay for the services provided, and money does not cost as much as the rate of interest or the tax which is imposed but Brother Tyson does not mind the fed, or whoever is going to manipulate the interest rates to do so, to regulate economic behavior. What bothers me most, though, is that a man with such a knowledge of history would be against the smugglers. Who speaks for the smugglers? Nobody on this floor. Smugglers should have some rights, Senator Tyson. They're out there trying to make a more or less honest living. They at least provide a product which people want at a price they're willing to pay, but you had disparaging remarks, if I understood you correctly, against smugglers. What, pray tell, are they to do? I often say that I'm the defender of the downtrodden. In this discussion, it appears that the smugglers may fall into that category. So if raising this tax is going to help the smugglers, that's just another benefit that we ought to consider in giving our affirmative vote. We're helping an entire class of people who otherwise might be out there with guns and sticks and stones using violence on people instead of meeting a social need as they pursue...perceive it. I'm a little upset at the approach that some people are taking, which is going to further expand the workload of the Judiciary Committee. I have said three words account for that: punish, punish, punish. They want to punish young people so they're going to bring every variety of bill, dumping on the Judiciary Committee, after expressing commiseration yesterday, to punish, punish, punish our young people. And I'll probably oppose every bill designed to punish anybody this session. Senator Tyson also spoke about people overeating, overdrinking and the problems that result from those