

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

February 17, 2000 LB 1436

You were thrown into the job market at 12 or 13 years of age and expected to be a wage earner and a helper in bringing home the bacon to your family structure, or looking after yourself. We, in the interests...we adults, whatever an adult is, I'm still searching for that definition, we adults have so "agendized" our children, so "agendized" our adolescents, so "agendized" our high school students by trying to govern every aspect of their lives, that they actually have no opportunity to make decisions, to learn how to make rational judgments to become able to decide what is better for them. I have no fear of LB 1436. I believe that rather than have adults making a living from antismoking campaigns, rather than trying to cut down adult smoking by pricing it out of the market, that we ought to try an approach that includes the decision-making process...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...of high school students, that provides an opportunity to make both a contribution and receive a reward for doing that. We are not going to have responsible adults in the future, whatever that means, if we don't give to our young people the opportunity to make responsible adult decisions and to look at their peer groups and to provide the opportunity to have the peer pressure that can result in the other direction. I think we're missing something if we get LB 1436 confused with adult antismoking top-driven down to those that don't know any better types of approaches. Let's give this one a chance. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Redfield, on the committee amendments to LB 1436.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I wanted to rise in support of the bill. I am familiar with the Florida campaign. It was so successful, not only in the numbers that you see, but it was so successful that it's my understanding when the State of Florida settled with the tobacco companies, in their settlement, the tobacco companies, as a condition of that settlement, mandated that the billboards designed by these students be pulled. That's how scared the tobacco industry was of the impact that these campaign ads were having on minimizing teen smoking. I am an advocate of this