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on AM2458. Senator Jensen. Senator Jensen, you've been recognized to open on your committee...on your amendment to LB 1436.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. I'm sorry, I was on the phone. The amendment is distributed on your desk before you. It takes one cent, which raises the tobacco tax from 34 cents to 35 cents, to fund this program. The...you know, it's a small amount. Certainly, as I said earlier, I can't imagine if you went into a store whether you're going to recognize that that one cent is the difference between one store and another store's price, or if it is a tax, and this would allow then funding for this particular program so that it could be advanced and could be promoted. And that's...I...it's simple enough. I'll just stop there and be glad to answer any questions that the body might have. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Jensen. On the Jensen amendment to LB 1436, Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. President and members, I would rise to question if the amendment is germane and ask for a ruling from the Chair. I believe the tax is a new issue and I would question its germaneness. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Jensen, would you like to comment on the question of germaneness prior to my ruling?

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. I think that it is germane. It's covering the tobacco issue. Certainly there are various taxes that tobacco has covered. There's a list of things which, within that tobacco tax, they are used for. I think this fits within that...that realm and, therefore, I believe that it is germane to the topic that we're discussing.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Bohlke, would you like to make a comment on the germaneness?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. President. I just raise the issue that the tax is a new subject and entirely different from the intent and the direction that the bill was going, and