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LB 973

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, there's a guy who is not paying the tax. Thank you, Senator Janssen. Members of the Legislature, what this bill is about is competition, the more I listen and the more I look at it. The state is not necessarily ensured of any money because taxes are going to be paid on liquor in the ordinary course of events wherever it is being produced and dispensed. So somebody in Nebraska thinks that people somehow are bringing liquor into Nebraska on which they didn't pay a tax in California or wherever they brought it from, and they can sell it cheaper here because they didn't pay a tax on it and they want those people to have to pay a tax in Nebraska to add to the price so that they cannot undersell liquor dealers in Nebraska. I'm going to ask Senator Janssen if that's true or not.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Senator Chambers, I'm sorry to tell you that I wasn't listening to you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's all right. That's why I'm going to re-ask the question. Isn't it probably true that these liquor wholesalers and distributors who spoke for the bill think that if somehow people are bringing liquor into this state for sale and didn't pay a tax wherever they...or the liquor originated, they're going to be able to sell it that much cheaper for not having had to pay that tax?

SENATOR JANSSEN: That's right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And, therefore, they could undersell liquor...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...sellers in Nebraska. Isn't that really what this bill is about?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Well, it's true, but you understand that that...that by underselling them there the state is not getting their money either,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I don't care about the state not getting...