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SENATOR CUDABACK: Would you yield, Senator Cunningham, to a question?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Senator Cunningham. Educate me. We talked this morning... Senator Janssen talked about the two young boys that came into the grocery store, and one boy had his mom's EBT card and ran it through the scanner to buy a candy bar and a can of pop. And the other young man, who had a dollar bill, he came in and he had to pay tax. On the... is it legitimate to just come in and buy snack food on your... using food stamps? A can of pop and a candy bar?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes, it is.

SENATOR BYARS: All right. That's somewhat disconcerting to me, as I don't find that to be a necessary food item. I... and I don't know how we got to that point. Thank you. I appreciate that. I want to make a point relative to that, however. Because we aren't treating apples and oranges the same. We're not treating apples and apples the same. If these young people here, or me as a junk food junkie, go to a vending machine... and I go down... we go downstairs right in this Capitol building, and I put... if I'm lucky enough to have enough money left from my legislative salary to put it in the pop machine, and I get that can of pop, or I get a bag of potato chips, or I get a candy bar, no matter how you classify it, whether it's a Twinkie, or a "Twixie," or a Baby Ruth, the person who owns that vending machine has to pay sales tax on those sales, on the same items that we don't tax if we walk into a grocery store or a convenience store or any other place that sells the same product over the counter. I didn't realize this until I introduced my snack tax. Is that a level playing field, if we're talking about level playing fields? I don't think so. Now, what's fair about that? I think we need to take those things into consideration as we're hammering this out. I stand in favor of broadening the sales tax base. I'm not sure exactly how we do it on snack food or on some of the other items. But it can be done. We have too many exemptions. Why should I or my family,