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together, I'm going to tie your clients together. If you try to stop this increase on the liquor, any time I see any client of yours, that's a persona non grata, as far as I'm concerned. It all ties together. But I will not lower myself to negotiate on behalf of the Legislature with a lobbyist. This does not mean I will never talk to a lobbyist, listen to a lobbyist, or even accept a suggestion if I think it's valid. But when we reach a point where the Legislature has to get permission from the liquor lobby to raise a tax, I am deeply and profoundly offended as a member of the Legislature, as the oldest member of the Legislature. And I think when we let ourselves as an institution be treated in that dismissive, insulting manner, we deserve to have happen to us whatever happens. A lobbyist is a mercenary. A lobbyist is a hired gun. A lobbyist is interested only in delivering what his client paid him to deliver. We are not hired by that lobbyist, or by the industry that lobbyist represents. We were sent here to represent our colleagues. And by that, I mean those who sent us here. And you know why I'm not calling them constituents? We're working in concert with them. We are citizens first. Whatever we do impacts us the same way. So when I speak of constituency, it's usually from the standpoint of those people being electors who send us here. But now I'm talking about the interest of the body politic. The public needs to know that this Legislature is under the thumb of the liquor industry, and afraid of the liquor industry. But I am not. And the Legislature needs to stand on its hind legs and tell the liquor industry where it can go. Now, I helped stick it to the cigarette smokers during the special session, after having stood on this floor and railed against using a tax against smokers to balance the budget. I became convinced that in the short term, the plight of the state was so severe that despite my personal feelings and the principles I think I ought to be guided by in voting on tax policy, I would violate all of that and vote for the temporary increase in the cigarette tax to go for a purpose that I felt was illegitimate. And I acknowledged that then; I acknowledge it now. That's exactly what I did. I made a political decision that went contrary to the principles I had articulated on this floor over and over and over, and still articulate. The current proposal is to maintain what was to be a temporary tax permanently. That is asking me to vote for an increase in the cigarette tax. Because the