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that I can to reduce smoking but I decided early on that it's probably not a good way to formulate policy...

SENATOR ENGEL: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...based on my personal habit. I don't smoke and it would be easy to tax that other person who does smoke. But in looking at the general policy, the public policy involved, it gets a little more difficult for me. I try not to base things on emotion. Imagine if we looked at cigarette tax policy if one of our colleagues died of lung cancer, if we formulated policy only on that, an emotional issue. We can't do that. We need to look at the broader ramifications of raising the tax, and I really, really struggle at a time like this raising a tax that doesn't go into the General Fund where the dollars can be used in terms of general education, and where general education would include...

SENATOR ENGEL: Time.

SENATOR SMITH: ...tobacco cessation. Thank you.

SENATOR ENGEL: Senator Synowiecki.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator Engel, members. I listen to these arguments against the amendment, AM1783, and quite frankly I'm usually on that side. I'm undecided but I am disappointed, disappointed in the fact that the state derives an enormous amount of revenue from cigarettes, both indirectly and directly. The tobacco settlement monies, I'm being told, for the next biennium this state will receive \$82 million. Our tax revenue, with the LB 1085 adjustments are projected to be \$156 million from cigarettes for a total, grand total of \$238 million. And you're trying to tell me we have to go back to the till for another 3 cents a pack to support some prevention programs? I just can't believe that; \$238 million in the next biennium between the settlement and tax revenues from LB 1085, the additional cigarette tax and the preexisting as well. It brings us \$238 million, and we have to go back to the smokers again to get another 3 cents for a prevention program that is 6 million bucks for the biennium. I'm really