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rather than another tax increase. I don't support the amendment and urge you to reject as well. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. I would like to direct one question to Senator Thompson, if she would respond, please.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Thompson, would you yield, please?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Are there any other sources of revenue that this program could be funded by, any types of grants or anything like that? I've been getting quite a number of e-mails saying that, you know, this program has got to be...it will quit, it will be done, we will not be able to work in the schools to prevent the addiction to smoking. Is there any other avenue besides going to the tobacco settlement fund?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Prior to the tobacco settlement fund there is a little bit of money that was used in public health in the Department of Health and Human Services. Was minuscule. It was...they were able to do a few things to get to a comprehensive level, which is what the Legislature at that point talked about this was an essential part of it. What happened was the money that would have been used for this, because the...of the way the structure of the tobacco settlement funds was, that it was squeezed out.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Okay. Thank you, Senator Thompson. I realistically have never been in support of adding additional taxes to a specified group, and since, you know, they have...the smokers have contributed a lot of money to programs, I would like to echo the comments of Senator Bourne, that I think possibly if we need to have some prevention there is money in that tobacco settlement fund. Yes, it's not earmarked for that direction, but I am...my feeling is that maybe that should be an avenue of that money to take care of that part of it. So I don't rise in support of this. I didn't support it the other