## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

February 17, 2005 LB 563

SENATOR JENSEN: Well, I guess what I'm really trying to understand is why we in the body should vote for this. Is it just to comply with federal regulations?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Yes.

SENATOR JENSEN: Well, I still have difficulty, and I won't ask any more questions, however, on that. And it's interesting what Senator Chambers was saying, and I can buy into part of that, and particularly when he was questioning who would drink this product. I don't think anybody over 40 years old has ever had one of these. It is a product for young people. Senator Cornett, I don't know what your age is and so I'm not going to inquire either.

SENATOR CORNETT: (Microphone malfunction)...(inaudible).

SENATOR JENSEN: (Laugh) But anyway, maybe it is that nobody over 30 would drink these products, but it is a product for young people. And I do have a concern any time that we develop products that would encourage more young people to participate and to drink alcoholic products. And I know it's marketed for young people also, so I do have a concern about that. Now, if this is a bill that needs to identify just how this is to be taxed, I can certainly look at that. But I, like Senator Chambers, really do not want to promote a product that more young people are going to indulge in and indulge in very heavily. I certainly go to the grocery store from time to time and see young people and what they're carrying out of the store, and I do know that some of these products are being used, and being used very heavily, and some of the parties that young people have, underage individuals, it is also present. will be glad to listen to the testimony and if there's a reason taxwise that this should pass, I could ... I could support that. But if it's just to make this product more attractive to young people, I'll certainly be opposing it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen. Senator Janssen, you may either speak or close, as there are no further lights on but yours.