

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

March 14, 2005 LB 563

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I really don't know, but to show that even bad people speak truth on occasion, Hitler referred to wine as vulgar vinegar and would not drink it. So I accept his statement on that and will say that whatever amount of alcohol it has, it's too much.

SENATOR LOUDEN: I see. Well, thank you, Senator Chambers. I wondered. To me, I guess it's a question of how we're going to classify this and where the tax money, whether it will be priced for the taxes. I think I'm not...this is something that I don't think that needs to be made probably, because I'm sure it's made to target a certain group of people in order to sell the stuff. When it comes out with flavored and sweet-tasting and that sort of thing, I'd be more concerned on it the younger people that would be like children or something drink that when they didn't get a chance or they found it. This is sort of the reason why there were different things put in Prestone, so kids and dogs wouldn't drink it. So here my concern is if this is something that looks like pop and tastes like pop, that they will be people that will drink it thinking it's pop and they'll be way too young to be handling something like this. I would question whether it needs to be designated in some other type of containers rather than sold as something that everyone should do. So, at the present time, I'm listening to the debate and I'll decide further on. And I'll return the rest of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. And when I talked about younger people, I was thinking along the lines of what Senator Louden touched on, that this is designed to be deceptive, but I was also thinking about those younger people who are not old enough legally to drink. Some of them might find the taste of beer repugnant. These beverages are flavored for a reason. The reason is to make them taste better. The way the industry can determine what flavors people consider to be desirable is by looking at the types of flavors they will drink when they're drinking other nonalcoholic beverages. Then you just try to make this replicate that flavor to the extent that you can. Does the liquor industry care how many people become