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FLOOR DEBATE

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we...what are we doing here trying to convince ourselves that by raising the tax on this is going to change consumption and use of this? It's not. The manufacturers, I think, if we don't adopt...or if we do adopt something like the Chambers amendment, and they may do it anyway, just change the source of the alcohol. You have to remember alcohol is alcohol. It's a chemical compound. It's all the same. Doesn't matter to the manufacturer, I don't really think, where it comes from. They can leave the bottles, they can leave the flavor in these things. I said there's lime, there's lemonade, there's cranberry, there's light varieties, all this stuff. I don't think what we're doing here is going to have any effect whatsoever on the market or who buys this. So that's my comments, as a person who sees people buying this. It just, what we're doing here is a fuzzy, feel-good situation with Chambers' amendment, and I do support the underlying bill, LB 563. So, with that, I'd be glad to answer any questions, as somebody I...we do see this product move. It's not particularly popular. It's more expensive than just straight beer. I don't think many young people have much of a...are not very price sensitive anyway, but most of them don't drink this just because of the source of the alcohol is a little bit different. So, with that, I'm going to oppose the Chambers amendment and support the overlying bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Jensen, followed by Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. You know, I...whether adults drink this or not, that isn't what the statistics...when I'm saying adults, I'm talking about older adults. The statistics say it is a young person's drink and it's targeted, again, at those young people. Again, looking at the sheet that I pointed out, now there is Bacardi Silver. Bacardi is not a beer, but it wants to be...must...wants to be...have the same privilege as a beer, if you want to say it that way. Smirnoff's, Smirnoff's is a vodka and it says right on the bottle, yet, they want to be accepted as a beer. Jack Daniel's, we certainly know what that is, that that is a hard liquor, and yet they want to be classified as a beer. Skyy Blue, Mike's Hard Lemonade, hard indicates to you it's a hard