

November 4, 1985

LB 3
LR 8

tobacco smoke experience more ear infections, changes in lung function and increased risk of developing lung cancer. Children whose parents smoke also tend to develop more cases of respiratory disease. Do your children or grandchildren have a series of colds? Only you can really answer the question. But how will you vote on this issue to say as a public policy we will do something about the smoking hazard in the State of Nebraska? I urge your adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question is the adoption of the Marsh amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 5 ayes, 26 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The amendment fails. Do we have anything else?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner would move to amend the bill. (The Hefner amendment is found on page 104 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner. Senator Hefner, before you commence, may I just say that while the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign and do sign LR 8. Senator Hefner. Thank you.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I passed a resolution out to you a little while ago. This restores the five percent commission allowance. Originally the bill reduced that from five to three. So this takes it back where it was originally. I feel that now is not the time to change this commission allowance. It is not the time to change or reduce the commission allowed wholesalers for affixing and cancelling the stamp. Raising a tax on cigarettes is one thing. Changing the commission is another thing. I don't think we should be tackling that during the Special Session. Since I have been in the Legislature we have had two or three studies. These studies have always showed that it was necessary for the wholesalers to receive five percent to come out on it. In fact, at one of our study hearings a former tax commissioner reported that it would cost the state seven or eight percent to collect the cigarette tax. And here we have wholesalers that are doing