

SENATOR BEUTLER PRESIDING

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, the Speaker has done nothing more than confirm what the Attorney General has told us, that the bill is in the call. This objection is untimely raised. This amendment, even in the event that one accepts the absolutist nature of the DeCamp objection, may well be cured in but a moment's time and it seems obstructionist to raise the issue at this point and not to permit the body to go forward and wreak its will with LB 3.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, Senator Johnson was so scholarly and correct in what he said, and I feel the same way that Senator Johnson does that the issue should be resolved there. Another way to say it...Senator Johnson said you can say on the one hand it is this way, on the other hand it is that way. Another way of saying that is on the one hand you can say it this way, on the other hand you can say it this way. So this is the way that I'm speaking of now that I would say it. A tax that the state levies is not designed ultimately to place a burden on those out of whose pocket the money comes, it is designed to raise revenue for the government to do the things that it does. So in increasing the tax, the government is trying to increase the amount of money that is going to come to it to do what governments do, whether those things be good, bad, competent, incompetent or whatever. So by reducing, as was pointed out in such a scholarly, Yale-like...you went to Yale, didn't you, Senator Johnson? Yale-like profession by...Yale-like method that Senator Johnson gave, it is saying this, when the money comes in and let's say that there is 20 cents altogether involved and you let a middle person take out a nickel, what the state gets is 15 cents. If you reduce what that person gets to three cents then the state gets three more cents. So it is increasing the amount of money that the state derives and it is increasing the revenue. But, after all of that has been said and done, the bill, as drafted, and considering the interrelated nature of everything in the tax on cigarette issue, this bill should be within the call. I know what