

be out of pocket some money that he or she paid for the stamps but he pointed out how brief a period of time that was, and I doubt that any of these good businessmen and women as he described them would go broke as a result of reducing this commission even though the increase in the tax is going to give them more revenue maybe than they are even getting now. And I see that as a cost of doing business, Senator Hefner, a cost of dealing death because that is what they, in fact, are involved in. We have legalized for them the right to sell a product that kills. We have legalized the right for them to do that. Alcohol may cause people to get in a frame of mind where their judgment is impaired and they will do things that will result in death but it is not, I don't think, provable that as many deaths result directly from the consumption of the alcohol itself as will from the smoking of cigarettes. But if that can be established, we ought to abolish liquor or tax it the same way. Whenever you have these substances that damage the public, I think the state has a requirement or responsibility at least to tax them, to make a statement, since it is not going to do the right thing. So I believe that Senator Johnson's evaluation and analysis are correct, that these wholesalers are not going to lose a nickel, and the slight inconvenience, if they suffer even that, is not too high a price for them to pay for the right to deal death to our children and everybody else. I am in favor of defeating Senator Hefner's amendment. Senator Hefner, you see...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...I spoke in the affirmative about your amendment even though I am against it. I am in favor of defeating it. That is about as strong a compromise as I can make.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, we have an amendment, I understand. We don't have an amendment. Senator Hefner, would you like to close, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, in response to Senator Chambers, he says here we are legalizing people to sell cigarettes, I don't think we are legalizing them to sell cigarettes. They have this option anyway, whether there would be a tax on it or not, or whether the tax would be 10 cents a package or 20 cents a package or 25 cents a package. Automobile dealers sell cars. Cars kill