

discussed, why select one particular sin, cigarette smoking, as opposed to all of the other "sins" out there, whether those sins be in the form of boating, or bowling, or yes even Ping-Pong. So the cigarette smoker, that is his form of recreation. It may be dumb, it may be stupid. It may be unhealthy. At the same time if you want to truly stop him this isn't the way. All you are doing is taking additional money from him for his form of recreation and I think it is inappropriate. I'd urge you not to advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Remmers.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the increase in the cigarette tax. I'd like to just explain my position. I have always, more or less, philosophically opposed using sin taxes to run government, whether it is tobacco, alcohol or lotteries. For that reason...that is one reason I would oppose it. However, I got a card shower the other day that almost makes me feel like I want to vote for the bill because I didn't appreciate that card shower. But I am going to stand with my position. But I have a practical reason as well as a philosophical reason. Philosophically I am opposed to running government by sin taxes. But practically two of my counties border Missouri. Presently our farmers go into Missouri to buy repairs for their farm machinery, there is no tax on it. Buy \$1,000 worth of repairs, that happens quite regularly, that is \$35. They stop and fill their gasoline tanks because they can buy their gasoline over there ten cents cheaper because of the gas tax. Now if we're going to increase the tobacco tax some more, you can be sure that they are going to go over there, and when they are there buying their farm machinery, when they are filling their gas tanks, they will also buy their supply of cigarettes. So not only do we lose the tax, our merchants also lose the business. So I have to oppose the bill for two reasons, one, philosophically that I don't think sin taxes should be the basis for running a government, and, second, I do think we have to keep in mind the competition from other states. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp, do you wish to speak?

SENATOR DECAMP: Question.

PRESIDENT: Thank you for the motion. The question is