

that hasn't cut his business 20, 25, 30 percent, maybe more. There isn't a rural person, there isn't a laboring person in my area who has not foregone raises for five years. They are blamed glad to have a job. You can go along with this, and you probably will. It may be, as has been said before, the responsible thing to do. But I'll tell you what, when there is a forest fire out there, it is not responsible to have a few people sitting in the cave and the rest of us getting our tails singed. That is exactly what is happening. There are some of us here who are hustling some of our friends into the cave and pouring the damp cloth over the top, then we are going to have to stand out there and face the forest fire. I met with dozens of people over the weekend. Some of you heard the comments about my sheriff, 700 foreclosures in this year so far,...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Up from 50 a few years ago. If you want to know what hard times are, go out and talk to those people. I know the bills are probably going to pass. I don't know how many votes they are going to get. I know that in all good conscience there are many good arguments for the passage of those bills, but until I see a sense of awareness on the part of this body that it has to...the economy has to turn around and we all benefit, and we do those things that are for the good of the entire state, then I am not in favor of building a fire wall around a small sector and allowing the rest of us to go under.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman, then Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, the people who have spoken in favor of the cigarette tax, their speeches have a hollow ring, a hollow ring. It's been mentioned the health problem. Is this tax earmarked towards cancer research, or towards the health problem? No. You've heard other senators get up on this floor and they say we are going to enforce the bootlegging, you may be assured there will be no bootlegging. It says...Senator Johnson said vigorously enforced. Let me ask you and tell you a little of the facts. If the senators on this floor who are standing here and saying we are vigorously going to enforce the bootlegging, why are not they vigorously enforcing the law that is presently on the books that anyone 16 years and under cannot purchase or have in their possession