

teenagers will not purchase or have in their possession cigarettes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Chambers, then Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I was upstairs listening to the discussion. I wasn't going to come down and say anything on the bill at all. I'm going to support it. But Senator Schmit has a way of raising issues that call me, like a spider from his web, down onto the floor to make a comment or two of my own. One reason that a lot of people are going to oppose this bill is because the tobacco industry has a very strong lobby, they give freebies through the years...throughout the year and at these legislative conferences. So they are probably calling in some of the chits that are out there. But Senator Schmit raised some very significant issues especially when he said that the whole state is in a depression, that there are areas of the rural community which are being ignored and disregarded. That seemed like deja vu because I listened to Senator Schmit and I had to pinch myself to see if I was awake because it sounded like my words but they were being spoken with a different voice. I thought you know how in dreams things become confused and they are not really as they are when you are awake. So I pinched myself, I'm really awake, I'm at the Legislature, and sure enough that is Loran Schmit talking. But I listened carefully. It reminded me of all the years I've been down here trying to point out what happens to black people in my community based on racism and discrimination, how the job opportunities are not there, how when a job opening does occur there are far more black people trying to get that job than can possibly receive it. But everybody, except Senator Schmit and a few others, ho-hum, black people are just lazy, they don't want to work. I stood up here and I said time after time that the Bible has a verse which says that it is easy for one whose foot is secure to ridicule and heap scorn on the one whose foot is about to slip. I was trying to make you know what I felt. I also said you sow the wind you reap the whirlwind. Again there was the mockery and this is the white people's Bible. Well, now the whirlwind is coming. The chickens are coming home to roost and I'm hearing white