

would make the bill more restrictive and I'm just against that. I supported the Moore amendment the other day. I thought this was a reasonable compromise to this bill because I certainly don't want to be a party of putting these machine operators and dispenser operators out of business. I think if this is going to come to pass, I think we need more time to phase them out. And it's true that some of these machines can be converted for other uses but it takes time to do this. It takes time, it takes money and it takes effort. And I think we're placing too large a burden on these owners of these machines. I know that we need to control the sales of cigarettes and other tobacco products but let's do it in a reasonable way. And when we adopted the Moore amendment the other day, I thought that this was a fair compromise and I would like to see the bill passed with...with the Moore amendment not being stricken. It's true that we do have a law where it says that minors or those 18 and under cannot purchase cigarettes, and I believe that's a good law. But, by leaving these machines in those establishments that have liquor licenses, I believe is reasonable. I believe it's a reasonable compromise. And so I would like to see you vote against the Schimek amendment and then go ahead and advance the bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Schmit, followed by Senators Chambers, Peterson and Haberman.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Madam President and members, I appreciate the comments of Senator Chambers and Senator Schimek. Recognize that it is very easy to rationalize that after all we are not going to totally wipe out the use of these machines; number two, that they can be converted to other types of merchandise; and, number three, that we're going to take ten years to do it. The point I want to make is this, if you were to buy an automobile or had bought an automobile and got it licensed and were driving down the road and suddenly we passed a bill which said it can only be driven on secondary roads, no township roads, no county roads, no interstate, someone would scream and shout and holler. They'd say, I bought it in good faith, I licensed it, I paid taxes. This Legislature, time, after time, after time invades upon the individual rights of citizens. We take away, we confiscate, we impede the ability of an individual to earn a living. Now there are certain times when that is justifiable and frequently when we do that we grandfather in or we make exceptions to. In this instance, we say, okay, we have just reduced the utilization of this equipment by 50 percent. That