

is probably not the wisest course for us to take at this time. The bill will stay alive in committee throughout the session and whatever assistance that is at the federal level, I think that's a good...good thing to do. So those are my comments about the bill and about where we are and I think that you need to read the Attorney General's Opinion and see what he has already said about the bill and recognize that Senator Byars has already requested another Attorney General's Opinion. We need to probably see what he says about that before we move forward with legislation in this area. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Horgan. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, one point I would like to make in view of what Senator Horgan just said, if a motion is made to pull a bill from committee and the vote is unsuccessful, the bill is dead, Senator Horgan, it won't be alive for the session. If this vote is not successful, 1172 is dead. And if it's being a viable bill, whether in committee or on the floor, would have had any influence on Congress, what will be done by this vote, it it's in the negative, is to say that the State of Nebraska does not choose to exercise this leverage, whatever it may have. Now I've tried to get bills out of committee before which dealt with tobacco issues. Walt Radcliffe, who is a highly paid lobbyist for the tobacco industry, had submitted some information to one of the committees saying that the federal courts would not allow the states to legislate in this area because Congress had it under their jurisdiction. And I disagreed with his material. I argued that's not true and, as it turns out, I was right. But he was a lobbyist doing his job. Now you're going to get one side of the story when you deal with an advocate, whichever side the advocate is on. As for the validity of Attorneys General Opinions that is a matter of opinion and something to be weighed, depending on what the issue is. If I had accepted what an Attorney General had written and others had followed about our not being allowed to have expenses during session, you all would not be getting expense checks now. I pushed that bill in opposition to an Attorney General's Opinion which said, we cannot do it, it's unconstitutional. Then I had to argue with the Attorney General to make him file a suit because he had told DAS not to honor my voucher. I said, if you don't file it, I'm going to fill it, and forced him into court and we won. When there are differences of opinion on serious issues then we should not hide behind an opinion that one person gives us who