

good or bad or that type of thing, I'm not going to spend any time on that. What I would do is just point out the primary difference between LB 595 and LB 22, and that is that LB 22 is General...raises General Funds. LB 595 would go towards cancer research. I think the...there is a clear nexus, I believe, between the tax that we're imposing at this point and the benefit which will be derived from that. Nebraska is fortunate to have two excellent cancer research centers in the state. The University of Nebraska Medical Center has a nationally, if not internationally, renowned bone marrow transplant unit. We often read in the Omaha World-Herald or other newspapers about people, recipients of bone marrow transplants coming from other countries, certainly from other states to receive treatment, and that is, obviously, it's a benefit in that it imports dollars into the state. The second benefit is though that it provides for a good cancer treatment center as well as good cancer research centers for the people of the State of Nebraska. Also, up in Omaha, Creighton University also has a...Dr. Henry Lynch at Creighton is one of the, again, internationally known cancer researchers. They tend to do more in the area of...or have a significant impact in the area of breast cancer which is, of course, a concern to most Americans at this point. The studies indicate that cigarette smoking is attributable or I should say that it is a factor in 32 percent of cancer deaths. It is also attributable to deaths from coronary heart disease and chronic lung diseases and a variety of other health complications. But there is a clear nexus, I believe, between the tobacco use and cancer and because of that the tax that is used or the tax that is raised would use to fund cancer research, would use to help alleviate some of the problems or prepare for the some of the problems that the product is itself causing. Because of that, I think it is appropriate that if, in fact, the tax will be increased on those who smoke, that at least some of the problems that their habit is creating for themselves that they derive some benefit from that. This would allow some benefit to those...to that sector of the population which would be bearing the burden of the tax. The money, as Senator Warner...and I do commend Senator Warner and the Revenue Committee on putting together, I believe, a very good committee amendment which, of course, becomes the bill, it does provide for the...the accountability that Senator Warner sought. It does provide that the money will be used for cancer research. It clearly puts whatever limitations on it so that it can't be used for anything other than cancer research, with the exception it also puts on a limitation on the Cancer Registry funding, changing that from