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have highlighted the proposal if it was authored by a Republican, but it was not. Our magnanimous Governor just cannot force himself to admit that Democrats support tax cuts too. The difference is we've tried to tie our tax reductions to economic development, whereas the Governor has constructed his tax package for political gain ... his tax cuts would not create a single new job."

Oklahoma's Sen. Don Nickles also spoke out on Tax Freedom Day.

"The idea of Tax Freedom Day really drives home a point that most of us already understand: Americans are overtaxed. We have tried during this Congress to enact legislation to give taxpayers a break — such as my proposal to provide a \$500-per-child tax credit as part of the balanced budget package. Unfortunately, President Clinton vetoed that bill."

Americans in different states have to spend slightly more or less time working to feed government's voracious appetite. The national average, known as the National Tax Freedom Day, this year falls on May 7 — the latest date in history.

*"The only man who can change his mind is the man who's got one."*

*Edward Noyes Westcott*

**MORE FROM THE HOUSE FLOOR, MAY 1, 1996**

**By Shawn Ashley  
Staff Writer**

■(GIT) With the deadline only hours away for the filing of conference committee reports, the House considered only a handful of measures in a two-hour session that included a recess of just more than 30 minutes.

Actions taken by the House Wednesday include:

**HB2494**, by Rep. Ray Vaughn, R-Edmond, modifying sections of the Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco Act related to the age of purchasers of tobacco products, received a passing vote of 97-0 with its conference committee report adopted. The report, Vaughn noted, did little to alter the bill, only clarifying some of its language.

**HB2547**, by Rep. Mark Seikel, D-Harrah, faced a different fate. Efforts to adopt Senate amendments to the bill failed, 31-48. Rep. Frank Davis, R-Guthrie, urged the House reject the amendments, as well as the bill, because of the Senate's amendment related to land titles on page four of the bill.

After failure to adopt the Senate amendments, Seikel asked that the measure be sent to conference committee.

**HB2603**, by Rep. William R. Paulk, D-Oklahoma City, providing that any person who willfully or maliciously sets fire to,

causes to be burned or burns another person shall be guilty of first-degree arson, received a passing vote of 92-0 with an emergency clause and its conference committee report adopted. The conference committee report simply restored the title to the bill, Paulk noted.

The House also adopted by unanimous consent **HCR1107**, by Rep. Deborah Blackburn, D-Oklahoma City. The resolution withdraws from the governor's desk **HB3008**, directing the Department of Corrections to not house or process inmates at the facility located at 1411 North Classen Boulevard in Oklahoma City and stating that no inmate shall be allowed to enter or remain in the building or on the grounds of the building, unless the inmate is under the direct supervision of DOC personnel.

Blackburn followed adoption of the resolution with a unanimous consent motion for the House to recede from its fourth-reading vote on the measure and to reject Senate amendments to the bill and return it to conference committee. The motion was granted.

Senate amendments to **HB2748** were also rejected by unanimous consent and conference requested, while further conference was granted for **HB2294** after the House agreed to reject its conference committee report.

**MORE FROM THE SENATE FLOOR, MAY 1, 1996**

**By Staff Writers**

■(GIT) Senate members considered the following pieces of legislation during Wednesday's floor activity:

**HB2336**, by Sen. Robert M. Kerr, D-Altus, allows for university and college supporting license plates to include those of private universities.

Concerns from Sen. Charles Ford, R-Tulsa, that the measure did not contain a provision pertaining to Olympic license plates caused Kerr to reject the bill's conference committee report and request further conference.

**HB2494**, by Sen. Ed Long, D-Enid, modifies sections of the Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco Act relevant to the age of the purchaser of tobacco products.

Long said the Conference Committee Report simply cleans up the bill by removing amendments previously offered. Long said the Conference Committee Substitute regulates the penalty for employees who sell

tobacco products to minors by suspending their drivers licenses until that fine is paid.

Long also said the measure gives more freedom to municipalities to enforce the illegal sale of tobacco products, so long as the enforcement stays within the guidelines set forth by the ABLE Commission.

The CCR was adopted and the measure passed with a vote of 35-10.

**HB2332**, by Sen. Penny Williams, D-Tulsa recodifies the Oklahoma Breast Cancer Act.

Williams said the only changes the Conference Committee Substitute of the "Breast Cancer Bill" makes are to clean up modifications which delete redundant language.

The CCR was adopted and the measure was passed with a vote of 43-0.

**HB2603**, by Sen. Trish Weedn, D-Purcell, provides that any person who willfully or maliciously sets fire to, causes to be burned, or burns another person shall be guilty of arson in the first degree.

The CCR which restores the title of the bill was adopted by members, and the measure received a passing vote of 41-5.

**SB7**, by Sen. Ben Brown, D-Oklahoma City, creates refueling service for the disabled, requires service stations and like facilities to offer self-serve prices to the disabled, and requires the Corporation Commission to provide notices and rules.

Brown said the Conference Committee Substitute requires any gas station which offers full-service gasoline to pump the gas for the handicapped (as designated on their car) for the same price as self-service.

The CCR was adopted and the measure received a passing vote of 33-12.

**SB682**, by Sen. Howard Hendrick, modifies property exemptions from ad valorem taxation.

The adopted conference committee report stipulates that a non-profit organization may lease property it owns to another non-

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