

One Hundred Third Legislature - Second Session - 2014

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB675

Chairperson: Senator Galen Hadley

Committee: Revenue

Date of Hearing: January 24, 2014

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The purpose of LB 675 is to help the State gain more revenue, rather than less, by taking away churches' property tax exemptions.

The Governor and candidates for governor have said that "everything should be on the table." If taxes were paid on the many churches and cathedrals and temples in every city in this State, perhaps the State's assistance to local governments and schools would be diminished considerably – leaving more in State coffers for other purposes.

Religious people say they want to carry out the directives of Jesus who said, "Render unto Caesar what is Caesar's," when he was asked whether taxes should be paid to Caesar.

In short: "PAY YOUR TAXES."

This bill simply carries out what Jesus wanted to see his followers do, and they certainly want to see the Scriptures fulfilled.

As quoted the Lincoln Journal Star January 9, 2014: "Every day that someone offers a prayer in the Legislature, it should [signal] another vote for LB 675.

"This should be one of the easiest bills to pass that I've offered in the Legislature."

Jesus knew about, and understood, taxes because his disciple, Matthew, heeded Jesus' call to leave his place at the tax-gatherer's booth and follow him.

All things considered, I expect my legislative colleagues to say, regarding this bill: "Let Thy will be done." To which I can intone: "Amen."

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Ernie Chambers

