

vetoed, I am going to let him live with it and I won't do anything else. I may do that but I am not ready to make that commitment at this time. I like to have options available. I want to know what the situation is before I cut myself off in a corner having painted the floor without going to an exit from the room when I am doing the painting. Do you really want to paint yourself into a corner by not supporting the amendment at this time? This is not a commitment to support it on Final Reading. It is a wise mechanism to allow you to have an option at a future time. Without doing it now, without providing the physical mechanism of having it engrossed and in position, you don't know whether you will need it or not. I don't know whether I will need it or not but I am aware that I want to have a choice. I want to have more than one way to go. I want to be in the decision-making person's chair, not allowing something to happen by lack of taking action today. I support the amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Smith, please, on the Warner amendment. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: (No response.)

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Haberman on the Warner amendment.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, is Senator Smith here? I would like to ask her a question.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Smith.

SENATOR HABERMAN: I will start my talk until she arrives and then I will ask her. If you vote to advance this bill to Final Reading, what you are doing is you are guaranteeing that there will be some overrides on the Governor's budget because you are going to say the money is there. We are going to have an increase. We have the money to cover it. Then you can take all of those things that you have as your little pet projects and override because you say, well, we are going to have a one-half percent increase in the sales tax and that is going to bring in all this money. But let's go back a little further. This bill started out in January 22, 1985, and the bill as written does not propose to change the rates. So nobody even showed up at the public hearing. So now they are using this bill to increase the rates which you have already increased the income tax to 20 percent. Now Senator Smith said, and she isn't here yet...

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Smith.