

SENATOR CARSTEN: Withdrawn, okay, so ordered.

CLERK: Senator...then Senator Haberman would move to amend the bill.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, my amendment is to revert it back to 3 1/2 percent. I can see now that it is not going to pass but I want to tell this body something. From my experiences, I was in the selling game for 25 years and there is such a thing as psyching people out, and in my opinion, you are being psyched out. It is going to have a psychological effect on you when this bill is on Final Reading, that we do have the money and we might as well spend it. So I want you to remember what we are doing, and when we get the budget and it comes to the cuts, when it comes to the vetoes, don't say, well, the money is there, let's go spend it. So with that, I will withdraw the amendment. Thank you. I will just draw all my amendments. They are not going to go anyway.

CLERK: Mr. President, in that case, Senator Vard Johnson would move to amend the bill.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Senator Vard Johnson, on your amendment.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, this amendment offers a policy decision time for decision on the little sales tax question. We are going to increase the tax rates under the bill, if it ever is adopted, from 3 1/2 percent to 4 percent. Sales tax rate goes from 3 1/2 percent to 4 percent. The reason it goes from 3 1/2 percent to 4 percent is to provide additional monies to the General Fund, lock that in memory, to the General Fund. Every time we increase the sales tax, we automatically increase the sales tax on motor vehicles. The increase in the sales tax on motor vehicles goes to the Highway Trust Fund, does not go to the General fund, goes to the Highway Trust Fund. My amendment simply says that the current 3 1/2 percent sales tax rate shall, that portion on motor vehicles, go to the Highway Trust Fund. However, with respect to the increase from 3 1/2 percent to 4 percent, all of those dollars shall go to the General Fund. No part of those dollars shall go to the Highway Trust Fund. The case has not been made for an increase in the sales tax rate to allow for the additional increase to go to the Highway Trust Fund. That is