

February 28, 1991 LB 699

no matter how long I'm here I continue to learn. I have to admit I wasn't shocked by what I learned this morning. I was shocked only in terms of how it was said. The sales tax on motor vehicles was in 1059 to ensure 30 votes. We decided not to raise the fund to get 30 votes. It's interesting nobody told me...nobody told me that that was the plan. I'm not surprised nobody told me. In fact, I'm not even surprised that there are several bills in to do it this session, in any event, because that's been a trend from time to time. But I will tell you there is one thing about good politics and one of the things about good politics is that your word is good or if you're pulling something else, you tell it up front. Most of us accept that. I'm shocked to learn that the arguments we had on the highways last time was just a ruse, didn't mean anything. It was part of a plan. I'm disappointed to learn that. But that's neither here nor there now, but it was an interesting lesson. There was a bill in to justify the need for additional funds. I had it. It was a 1 percent increase in sales tax, heard by the Revenue Committee. And the case was built for the need. The opposition to it was there ought to be a uniform rate. There was no other opposition other than there should be a uniform rate on sales tax for all purposes. No one came in and said there was not a need. It's been pointed out already 1059 was to reduce property taxes. Right? And I look here over...would increase them probably by 6.2 million. That's the share that goes to cities and counties because that's the only source they have or they reduce the care of the roads, obviously. That's another point. It's been pointed out the state gas tax will not go up. it doesn't need to. That's right, you can reduce the budget. Two years ago, three years ago we spent hours on this floor arguing the need for an improved highway system. One of the keys to economic development the Governor has is for rural areas. You know, the end thing that went down on economic development followed a course. First, one year we had to have intent incentives. The next year we had to have four-lane roads. Now we need four-year institutions in every location. But the one need that never stops in this state, and it's been pointed out, is that of the transportation system because nothing, nothing can be done when we have no other alternatives than our roads. Now 699 also has a lot of good purposes. I don't disagree with that. But there is another bill before this body, two of them, as a matter of fact, and one is a constitutional amendment, deals with lottery. As I understand, at least from what I read in the paper, the support for that is to have those funds to go to education. Actually, if you're