

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

March 29, 2000 LB 973A, 973

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may do so. (AM3116, Legislative Journal page 1396.)

SENATOR JANSSEN: All right. The A bill for LB 973, this is an amendment to that bill that would require a person transporting alcohol into the state shall have to pay the excise tax. The Department of Revenue shall collect that same...in the same manner as the sales and use tax. All right. What happened is they're going to have to put another line in the...in the tax form. I have one right here, it's an F32-1. And the estimated cost on that is...the Department of Revenue says it's going to cost \$41,000 to set up this system to collect this new tax, and the cost is for computer programming changes made to the sales program. Department of Administrative Services Information, or IMS, charges the Department of Revenue to make these specific changes. The cost is the Department of Revenue's best estimate based on previous experience working with the IMS. The agency believes that this is the least expensive way to set the system up to collect this new tax. It seems to me like an awfully lot of money. The one thing that will happen if they don't...this is an estimate and if they don't use all that money it will go back into the General Fund. Of course, we have to remember that this will be collecting a larger percentage of tax or will be...that will be returned to the General Fund also. So I, in my opinion, I always thought that the DAS could...could absorb this but I guess there is a contract with this company to do these kind of computer changes. I think it's too much money, but I guess they have facts to back it up. With that, I would just ask for your support, reluctantly ask for your support on the amendment to the amendment to appropriate this specific amount of money and my committee will be looking, or I will anyway, looking into exactly how these operations work at DAS and the Department of Revenue during the interim. With that, thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. You've heard the opening on AM3116 to LB 973A. We're open for discussion on that amendment to LB 973A. Seeing no discussion, Senator Janssen, did you wish to close on your amendment to the bill?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Briefly, Senator Cudaback. Thank you for your