

March 9, 1981

LB 190

throw it out. Now I don't know that what Senator Haberman is offering that they are going to say it is because I don't know how much it changes it. But I do know this. When the railroads have agreed that this is not unreasonable what we are offering and they can live with it they have no basis to challenge it. So I urge you again reluctantly to adopt the..I mean to..I urge you to reject the amendment and advance the bill in the form we have it now.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Haberman, you wish to close on your amendment?

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, fellow legislators, back in 1979 on page 5580 of the Daily Proceedings, I called LB 42 and the postponing of it a charade. I don't think Senator DeCamp went back far enough when he started reading the record. Now I remember back in 1979 we passed the ton mile tax. Greatest tax there is. Gotta have the ton mile tax, we gotta make the railroads pay. We gotta collect the money now. We gotta save lives and as we go through my amendments I will quote to you from the 1979 record quote, "don't delay the tax until July 1, 1980. It gives us time to study it to come up with a working solution. It lets LB 42 itself go into immediate effect so we can use that two million to start building railroad crossings that is already in the fund. That was in 1979. We were going to save lives in 1979 and 1980. We have stalled the bill for two years and fifty-three people have been killed in those two years. Why are the railroads so eager to accept this? Because they save money. Why wouldn't they? It has a limit on it of ten million. So anytime the railroads are so willing to accept something and are so eager then I say look out. Watch out! How does this change the formula? Senator DeCamp, it changes it one way. It raises more money. So that we can build better and more overpasses and underpasses. That is what it does. It raises more money. That is all it does. It is exactly the same formula that you used in the first place. It just increases it. The railroads are increasing the use of our state, the railroads are increasing the use of their railroads and they are growing and they are spending millions and millions of dollars to increase the rail lines and their net profit. So I say let's increase this. Let's look for the inflation. The same formula, it won't hurt a thing and I ask you to adopt the amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Motion is the adoption of the Haberman amendment. Senator Haberman is closing. All those in favor of the Haberman amendment vote I, Opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: Nine Ayes, seventeen Nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the amendment.