

May 29, 1981

LB 506A

this particular override for two or three reasons, one, the enabling legislation itself did not designate that all of the additional funds were to be used for the research that was authorized but rather that up to that amount could be approved by the Legislature. Secondly, by leaving the \$800,000 available in the General Fund certainly will lessen the pressure to that extent, at least, for any adjustment in tax rates by virtue of other legislation that we have approved to this point. And then finally it would seem to me that there is some logic and merit of having some gradual increase rather than the full million two all at one time in this research area research. I certainly would support that concept, but by the same token I don't think that you can crank up a research program just like that, that it does take some time and some consideration needs to be given to that reality. So all things considered, I would hope that the body would not override the veto on LB 506A.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think we have exactly the same thing as we had just a minute ago, and that was putting an increase on the taxation of cigarettes, and then rat-holing part of the money for something else. I don't that is a moral thing to do, and I think if we are going to charge cigarettes, then let's put the money where this Legislature intended it to go. Now if you wanted to reduce the amount of money taken in, that would be different. But when we take the entire amount of money and say, no, we are not going to spend it for what the Legislature says, I think that is wrong. If we are going to charge the money, then let's spend it where we ought to. I go for the override.

PRESIDENT: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, the hour is late and people are leaving and I know there are a couple more motions and I probably shouldn't say anything. However, I have voted to uphold almost every single veto, because I did not want this Legislature blamed for a tax increase, when, in fact, it is not us but other circumstances that could cause it or will cause it. However, this particular proposal does not take any General Fund money. It takes revenue raised from cigarette tax and I think it should be used for the cancer research purposes for which we directed the money. In this instance the Governor is trying to take this money and feed his General Fund.