

April 5, 1982

LB 753

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell, do you want to talk on the Warner amendment? Senator Carsten, on the Warner amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would rise in support of Senator Warner's amendment to the Landis amendment. I agree that one year is probably without any question, not going to get us out of this problem, I would hope that Senator Landis, being in a cooperative mood would see fit to accept this amendment. In two years I'm sure that, or at least hopefully we are going to be out of a problem that we now have and would cause further concerns if we sunset it in one year as the Board of Equalization does meet in November and look down the road. I would support Senator Warner and his amendment and would hope that this body would too. I would agree with that.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to support the Warner amendment. I agree that we probably should have a sunset clause on this bill and...but I do think one year is too short. Of course, with the Warner amendment we extend that another year for a total of two years and I think this would give everybody a little more time to make that decision. Therefore I would urge the body to support this amendment.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Landis, do you want to talk on the Warner amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: I appreciate Senator Carsten's statement that I was a reasonable man. However there is an end even to my reasonableness and my good nature and we've just struck it. I oppose the Warner amendment for a couple of reasons. What this says is that the Legislature is not going to take a look at the problem next year. That we will simply write this two year version of this cigarette tax and ignore it in the coming session. Now frankly that puts us out of the business of reviewing economic times and the appropriate tax doubles and I'm not prepared to foreclose consideration. I think we should be looking at this. If what we are doing is protecting the Board of Equalization I would suggest to Senator Warner and Senator Carsten that we are now doing the Board of Equalization's work. Haven't we repeatedly at Senator Warner's suggestion been asked to increase income tax levels and to make recommendations which the Board of Equalization should be doing. Do we not have, and doesn't

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