

SENATOR CARSTEN: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I would rise to oppose the proposal for the same kind of reasons, two or three, the basic one being to tie up the money at this time seems to me, and earmarking it is ill advised knowing the situation that we may well be in in the future. Certainly if Senator Cullan would not be precluded from doing that kind of earmarking next session if the funds are available and finally I think it would be ill advised in any event, even if we didn't have the revenue problems to lock in the money in that fashion. Future sessions ought to have the flexibility of appropriating money where in that particular session their judgment it can be best used. I think earmarking is a bad feature in any event. I would hope that you would turn it down primarily because of the need to have as much flexibility for the next session as we can.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cullan, do you wish to close?

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, last year we increased the tax on cigarettes for one purpose. We passed an A bill for the equivalent of one cent on the cigarette tax for one purpose. That purpose was for cancer research. Then in the special session the Governor tried to take a good piece of that away again. This legislature again reaffirmed its position to support the cancer research program. Now I understand Senator Warner is going to try to cut that in half. So I guess that I think it is necessary to earmark this because people always see as an easy source of money to take away. I think it is only fair that of all the millions of dollars that cigarette smokers pay into the fund that a cent of it, a small percentage of it, just a cent of it be designated to cancer research and for smoking related diseases, research related smoking related diseases. So, I would urge you to adopt this amendment and set that fund aside so we don't continually have to fight the battle over the legislative intent, which I think was crystal clear when we enacted LB 506. I would ask you to support this amendment to LB 753.

SENATOR CLARK: Question before the House is the adoption of the Cullan amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting no.