

April 7, 1982

LB 903

committee amendments as amended would be adopted. The rest of the bill contains, number one it is an administrative penalty for violations of the special fuel tax laws of \$1000. The penalty may be reduced or even waived by the Tax Commissioner if he sees fit. But there is a violation penalty clause that can be used, if it is found that there are violations in it. Secondly, it requires that Motor Vehicle Registration Certificate indicates the type of fuel used by the vehicle, that special fuel of diesel, propane or whatever it might be so that the vehicle can be identified with a special sticker, and that is supplied then at the time that the registration is made or the renewal is made. Another thing...one other thing that it does it allows a one-time amnesty, period. It will not go into effect until January 1 of 1981 (sic) so that a person that now may be in violation will have an opportunity to pick up his tax responsibility if he feels that he should. It would encourage persons to be honest rather than to continue evading the responsibility. That basically is what is left in the bill at this point and I suggested to you that on Select File we will have more detailed amendments for the implementation of it. It is really a very bare bill at this point but we certainly have reached the point where there are quite a few violations in the state that we are really aware of and that we will be trying to add to this bill in a minimal sort and hope we can get it in operation for one year at least and then work from there. I would move, Mr. President, for the adoption of the committee amendments as amended.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the Unicameral, I rise to support the committee amendment as amended now. I think you realize that we did strike Sections 6 through 9. And, of course, most of us realize that we do need a new law concerning the special fuels and the way we tax special fuels. With the greater use of diesel cars and diesel pickups, many people converting to propane power, we feel that we just need to tighten up the way we tax these special fuels. I know there is abuse out there and I think many of the rest of you know that there is abuse out in the area. I feel that we could be losing up to a million dollars and maybe two million dollars in gasoline and diesel fuel tax revenues, and I think we need to close this hole, or at least try to close it. Vehicle owners and users are using fuel for their over the road vehicles that is coming out of the tanks that contain fuel that are tax free. And just let me give you a few examples. Take the sand and gravel contractors, or other contractors, they have tanks that a petroleum jobber

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