

think in many cases, even though it is a decent amount of money, it really will not amount to that much for most small towns. So even though their concerns are legitimate, their needs are, obviously, legitimate, I don't think the money is that significant, and they might ought to be considering not only the sales tax expansion at the local level, which they have the option, but in most of these projects are legitimately a function of property, and it would seem to me that if it is a function of property, then ought to draw the funds to support that from property and not further erode our state base, which we presently have in the form of cigarette tax. So I would urge opposition to this attempting to pull from committee and ultimately opposition to 683.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. May I introduce our doctor of the day, please. We have with us from Senator Rod Johnson's area, Dr. Mark Jobman, and his wife, Laura, from Aurora, Nebraska. Would you folks please stand and be recognized. Thank you, Doctor, for being with us today, and we hope you are not very busy today. Senator Hannibal, please, followed by Senator Moore and Senator Chambers. Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Well, Mr. President and members, I also rise to oppose the motion, and as so often is the case when you follow Senator Warner you become nothing more than redundant. In an attempt not to do that, I probably will anyway. I also oppose the issue on two bases, one as a committee member on the Appropriations Committee, and one on the public policy part of the bill, itself, the merits and demerits of the bill. The issue before us right now is whether this bill ought to be pulled from committee, notwithstanding the action or the fact that we have not taken action on it. We have had discussions in the committee about the bill. There, obviously, hasn't been enough votes in committee to advance it to the floor. But notwithstanding that, what Senator Warner has pointed out to you is the purpose of our committee and our workings over the last 49 days, or however many days, 45 days, we have had in the committee, and they have been on a daily basis, has been to try to look at all of the funding requests and all of the funding needs that we have had brought before us by all the agencies of government and the numerous bills that have been coming to us for specific types of funding. The goal of the committee is to try to look at funds available and needs that are there, and try to come up with some kind of a balance, some kind of a priority system that we will bring to the floor that will be our