

when he offered his amendment, the purpose of that was to keep the distribution formula for this 1 percent additional sales tax consistent with the formula for the existing 4 percent. So if you have any questions, I am prepared to answer them about what the amendment does. I want it to be very clear that I am not offering this amendment because I think the sales tax ought to be increased. But if it is, and this particular bill is a vehicle for that purpose, none of the money should be diverted to the Highway Trust Fund. It is watched over by lobbyists, by members of the Legislature, who have been anointed to carry out that duty and responsibility so it is unnecessary that we give them an additional windfall in this manner. The highway people couldn't have had less interest in this bill than I would have in determining whether if there is a man in the moon, he is a Democrat or Republican. So they have no interest in this bill. They have no interest in the 1 percent sales tax and in this case when I use the word "interest" I mean they have no claim on any of it and we should not give them that claim simply because under the traditional increases in the sales tax we allow the distribution formula to include them. So I hope you will adopt this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Lynch, please, followed by Senator Hartnett. Senator Hartnett, please, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President and members of the body, Senator Chambers, this is...if I can ask you a question, I think this is your amendment right here, Senator Chambers.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR HARTNETT: You are talking about all the money, all the four cents from the trailers and so forth, or the five, all of it together, or are you...or just the extra cent...1 percent of...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Just the 1 percent and so that it's clear where that is found in the amendment, if you turn to page 2 of the amendment, in line 20 you will see the language, "except as provided in Section 2 of the Schmit amendment." So what this is dealing with is only the 1 percent increase that Senator Schmit's amendment envisions. The present 4 percent would be