

Senator Lindsay as E & R Chair, Mr. President. (See pages 1291-94 of the Legislative Journal.)

Mr. President, the next amendment I have to LB 89, which is the bill on General File and was discussed this morning, is by Senator Schmit.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit doesn't seem to be here. Is it possible that we could move on with the next amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have is by Senator Chambers. Senator, this is your amendment that would add a new section to the bill. (The Chambers amendment appears on page 1295 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I had a copy of this amendment placed on your desks and it says the following: "There is hereby created a tax of 10 percent in addition to any sales tax on any firearm sold in this state and all proceeds from such tax shall be deposited in the Property Tax Relief account." What I'm talking about here is an additional tax on firearms. We have talked about the need for property tax relief, this does not raise the sales tax, it taxes one of those items that has been used legitimately, as has liquor, in a lot of cases, but illegitimately as in a lot of others. That's all right, Mr. Chairman, his mike was on, I thought he was talking to me. So I'm asking that you support this amendment and we can raise some revenue, we can make a statement and we can also contribute to property tax relief. So I'm asking that you support this amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Ashford, please.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President. Taking Senator Chambers' amendment very seriously, I would stand and, at this point, not supporting it, basically, because I think the real problem we have in our society is weapons that can be purchased by drug dealers and others and they will pay any amount of money, including the 10 percent sales tax or added tax in order to purchase these weapons. It's getting at a lot of legitimate sportsmen and I don't believe that it's appropriate to tax them at that level, but I appreciate the spirit in which it was offered but I, personally, am not going to vote for it. Thank