

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: The 1 cent increase would be diverted to with the intent that that money goes into the General Fund, but it is for purposes of funding this bill.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. That's what I had gotten as an understanding, but I wasn't certain whether that was clear to everybody, based on how swiftly things moved when you had it as your offering. This would take away one of the accusations that I and others have made about the bill in terms of its being one of those bills that's flying a false flag, being represented to the public as doing one thing when in reality a substantial amount of money that will be raised under the machinery of this bill being diverted to another purpose that has nothing to do with education or relieving property tax. I'd like to ask Senator Hefner a question, since I see him over there, if he'll answer.

PRESIDENT: Senator Hefner, would you respond, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hefner, if that 1 percent of sales tax increase that would be on automobiles would go into the Highway Trust Fund, how does that relieve property tax at all?

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, Senator Chambers, I think you heard my remarks yesterday, and I said we need this money to go into the Highway Trust Fund so we can build roads.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But I'm asking you, how would that reduce property tax, which is one of the claims made for this bill?

SENATOR HEFNER: Because getting the children to and from school is part of the education system.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But how does that reduce property tax? It doesn't really, does it?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, I would say because if a county or city has to build roads so the school bus can get over them, they have to use property taxes, so this way if we can use some of that sales tax on vehicles, well, it should help relieve property taxes, very definitely.