

March 24, 1992

LB 1272

favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on ceasing debate on the Lamb amendment to the Schrock amendment. We're voting on ceasing debate. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Debate has ceased and we'll go to Senator Lamb for closing on your amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, there were some questions that were brought up during the discussion in regard to when the tax had last been increased on beer. It was increased in 1987 to the current 23 cents. Before that it was 20 cents and before that it was 14 cents a gallon. It has been 23 cents since October of 1987. Other I have here, I guess it's not pertinent because this amendment does not address the tax on wine or liquor but they also were increased at that same time. Admittedly, I have not done a lot of research on this amendment. I saw the amendment by Senator Schrock and Senator Robinson which would, for the first time, propose an excise tax on pop. And I think that was appropriate, not nearly as appropriate as beer. The tax on pop is one that a lot of people pay, no doubt about it. However, it certainly does fall on the young people more than it does on the general population. I realize that this would be a high tax on beer compared to other states. We would have a total of 53 cents a gallon, but I don't think that's a lot of money, you know. Fifty-three cents a gallon, I have not calculated how much that is for a six-pack, but a gallon of beer is a lot of beer. And I don't believe that people would notice that. I don't know whether you want to accept this amendment by what I'm saying to you, it's more appropriate than the tax on pop. Now, whether we want to use either of these taxes, I do not know. However, I would ask that you support this amendment to the amendment so that if we are going to have an alternative tax, which a lot of people think is more appropriate than taking money from the Highway Trust Fund, that this would be more appropriate than a tax on pop. That's my reason for introducing the amendment. I ask that the amendment be adopted.

SPEAKER BAACK: You've heard Senator Lamb's closing on his amendment to the Schrock amendment. We will now vote on the Lamb amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. A record vote has been requested. We are voting on the Lamb amendment to the Schrock amendment. A record vote has been