

April 6, 1992

LB 719A, 1063

you guarantee that railroads will pay four and a quarter million dollars in personal property tax in the coming year.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Senator Warner, would you like to answer that question?

SENATOR HEFNER: And talk plainly...

SENATOR WARNER: What's the warranty...

SENATOR HEFNER: ..so we can hear that.

SENATOR WAPNER: What's the warranty provision, Senator Hefner? No, I can't guarantee that, obviously, and I assume somebody will pick that line up and misuse it. Senator Hefner, can you guarantee me you'll be here to...you'll be here tomorrow? No. I can't guarantee you I'll be here, but in my opinion, Senator Hefner, I think what you're trying to get me to say, which I'm very willing to say, and that is that without this amendment the likelihood of the railroad not paying is much greater with this amendment. I believe very firmly that an amount in that vicinity, depending upon the calculations for each of the 300-plus carlines and railroad, that we can be fairly well assured that local governments will receive in the vicinity of four and a quarter million from personal property tax plus approximately 15 million that is paid in real property tax in addition, yes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you, Senator Warner.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: I knew that you wouldn't guarantee that, but I had to ask that anyway. But this bill, LB 719A, will come up for Final Reading later on this week probably. I'm wondering if we'll have to bring it back again because the railroads have threatened us that they won't pay a certain amount and this is why I didn't vote for LB 1063 the first time around, because I don't think that we're going to be able to tax them, and I still don't think we'll be able to tax them even with this amendment on because they're protected under the 4-R Act, the federal act, and I just don't know how we're going to do that. So at this particular time I'm not going to support the Warner amendment on this bill.