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LB 683

a big topic in the fall, Initiative 413, et cetera. I did not think and don't think that it's probably a good idea to say, well, trust us, you did, we're going to increase taxes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That doesn't include the convention center, though, does it?

SENATOR HILGERT: Well, that would be the city council's decision whether they would obligate those funds and raise taxes, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: (Laugh) But you would support a bill that gave impetus to that...the possibility of that decision being taken.

SENATOR HILGERT: Well, without this bill, they may raise taxes \$75 million more.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, "Fred Astaire", I'm through. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Lynch, your light is next.

SENATOR LYNCH: Question.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Question has been called. There are no other lights on now, that's right. Senator Wehrbein, to close.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Very briefly, Mister...Madam President (laugh), I...I don't think the body's confused. This is a hold harmless for the cigarette tax. There is really no reason not to pass it. In fact, it's going to be very helpful to pass it for those commitments that are made to the cigarette tax. It holds the cigarette tax harmless. If, in fact, that we have a drop in cigarette tax revenue, General Funds will make up those commitments to where they're at, and that's in your pink sheet. I have read them twice. So I hope everyone understands what we're doing. But this is an important bill from that standpoint because of the commitments we've made to the cigarette tax. General Funds will pick it up. It does have an impact over time of General Funds if those cigarette tax revenues drop, make no