

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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CLERK: Mr. President, the Reference Committee will meet in Room 2022 now; Reference Committee in Room 2022 now.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think my colleagues on the Exec Board will understand why I cannot join them this morning, but I am in favor of the request made by the "Wizard from Harrison" to re-reference a bill that relates to an increase in the gasoline tax and the railroad tax. It should go to Revenue. So, even though I'm not there to cast my vote, I'm stating what I would do were I there with reference to the re-reference of that bill. Back to the matter at hand. This amendment probably will not be adopted. It will be of no consequence to me if it is not adopted. If the amendment is adopted, it will not, in fact, reach the point where it can affect the statute itself unless, with the adoption of this amendment, Senator Hilgert were to tell me that he's willing to drop everything else in the bill and it become an instrumentality only for the purpose of doing away with this deposit. And I would tell Senator Hilgert that that is not an inconsiderable achievement. It is a noble thing that he would be doing. And were his name to be attached to a bill which accomplished that and nothing else, it would redound to his benefit. I'm sure there are a lot of people who are not aware that guide dogs and these other dogs that assist people are the cause of a deposit being put down with these landlords at the time a rental agreement is entered into. I'm having trouble staying on this amendment because there are other things I'd rather talk about, but I think in the initial stages of the discussion, when it is a very serious amendment, I should spend some time on it. But, as you all know, we, on occasion, will digress in order to make a point. What I will not do this morning is ask Senator Hilgert any questions. I can understand his not wanting to participate in what I'm doing. I can understand nobody else desiring to participate. But, obviously, if a point is reached where somebody would like to join the fray, they're welcome to do so. But on this occasion, where we're dealing with a nothing bill and everybody has settled in to see if I can discuss a bill for eight hours without assistance from anybody else, this would be the good time to do