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FLOOR DEBATE

April 22, 2003      LB 759

here as we seek to address building needs. I hope you'll support this. It's, in my view, more of a technical amendment than anything, but it will make sure that we have the 7 cents as was intended in...when the hold harmless legislation was passed in 1999, to hold the 7 cents to the 1997-98 amount. And then, as I said, it was diverted, and then we put it back in. And so what this would do is all 7 of those cents would be held harmless, including the 2 cents that we put in, in the special session and heretofore. So I urge you to support this amendment, and thank you, Senator Vrtiska, for your comments. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. You've heard the closing on AM1448 to FA1326. All in favor of that motion being adopted vote aye, and opposed nay. Voting on AM1448, which is an amendment to the first component of divided committee amendments to LB 759. Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Thompson's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. The amendment has been adopted. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Quandahl would move to amend the...this component of the committee amendments with AM1449. (Legislative Journal pages 1355-1358.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Quandahl, you're recognized to open on FA1326 (sic).

SENATOR QUANDAHL: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, this amendment is the one that I spoke of earlier that, just to put it bluntly, it does away with all of the earmarks. All of the earmarks, all nine earmarks in our current cigarette tax are done away with by AM1449 to the FA1326. That's what's before us right now. It eliminates the earmarks, all nine of them. However, it does maintain the current 64 cents of cigarette tax. All funds generated by the cigarette tax then would go to the General Fund. A reason behind this is I guess