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LB 759

But there are questions which could require some discussion and amendments to the proposal taking up the body's time also. In addition, there has been various constitutional questions raised regarding the amendment and our ability to tax it in this manner including a proposal or a decision by the Attorney General. Again, these issues would take up conversation and time. It's not my intention to take up the body's time on this bill and this issue. What I would like to do is remove the amendment from the bill at this point in time, and Senator Hartnett's amendment would do that, his revised amendment. His first amendment was to just take out television and radio. Well, you know, so if we're going to do that, then, what the heck, we might as well scrap the whole thing. However, I've introduced an interim study to continue to examine this issue and get it into a form that is acceptable to the department and others. I will introduce this idea and possibly the idea of prohibiting advertising during the next session, the second half of this biennium. I don't know, we may look at further advertising also. I think that it is, you know I've been accused of, you know, talking out of both sides of my mouth here on this situation, but I believe that we have seen a lot of the editorials in the newspapers where they are hypocritical also. So I guess if the shoe fits, I'm asking them to wear it also. I thank you for the consideration you gave me on General File. It was evident that the body supported that thoroughly and I thank people who spoke in favor of it, and I thank Senator Brashear for allowing me to put that amendment on. I think it was the right thing. I still think it's the right thing to do, but if we're going to cause this state to go into litigation over this and spend some money, that's not worthwhile either. The Department of Revenue had a terrible time in trying to figure out how much revenue would be gained from this, and the last figure that I saw was not that substantial and, therefore, I am asking you to accept, to reluctantly accept Senator Hartnett's amendment to pull this provision from LB 759. And I will guarantee you next year we will see something on advertising that probably will bother those people that it is their business to run those newspapers on advertising and radio and television stations. So we'll see them again next year...

SENATOR ENGEL: One minute.