

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

May 15, 2003

LB 759

With those comments, I wish to withdraw the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn, Senator Stuhr. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Beutler, AM1762.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, to open on AM1762.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'd withdraw that amendment, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn, Senator Beutler. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Kruse, AM1945. (Legislative Journal page 1868.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kruse, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR KRUSE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. This amendment would change the tax on alcohol. We have talked a lot about this so I'm not going to talk much more about it. We are acquainted with the subject. It would add to what Senator Chambers had earlier. I declare Senator Chambers to be the Prince of Modesty. He goes up 2 cents a gallon on beer and that alone. This one changes by the amounts that you see on the amendment sheet that's been passed out. I'd call your attention to the last three items. As you can see, Senator Jensen and I have brought this in. It is, basically, half of what his amendment was earlier. It brings the alcohol tax levy back or the rate back to about what the committee had in the original proposal. So we would consider ourselves modest also. The additional amounts are down there below; 6 cents more for a can of beer, or .6 of a cent, .9 of a cent more for a glass of wine, .7 of a cent more for alcohol. I'm going to give Senator Jensen some time here. Before I do that, I want to make very clear what our intention is with this money. It goes...it adds to the bottom line on the blue sheet, and \$1 million is calling it pretty close, in my mind, and we would like to increase that to \$10 million. This will add \$9 million. We're not intending to remove any of the items on the blue sheet. We are not intending to come back and talk about more cuts. This is simply to add to the cushion that we have, the margin that we have, as