

March 31, 1980

LB 722

because the percentage is translated into cents per gallon that would be submitted to those who do the collection and I would imagine that the same provision would be provided here as we now know as to what portion of the total cost of the fuel is state tax.

SENATOR MARESH: But say if the tax would be one and three quarters, it could be in quarters, couldn't it, the percentage?

SENATOR WARNER: No, in tenths.

SENATOR MARESH: Okay, say if it was one and seven tenths, the wholesaler could increase the cost by two cents to round it off. Couldn't he? And the public would never know that they are paying an additional three tenths of a percent.

SENATOR WARNER: It is not quite the case, Senator Maresh, because as I understand the federal provision is on allocation as well as on price. There are only certain things that at any level, whether it is retail or wholesale, there is only certain items that they can pass on. Now the actual increase in tax they could pass on but they could not generate an additional price if it left them out of...if it put them in violation of the guidelines the federal government has already imposed. So I think the likelihood of that is rather, if not fairly remote, it is probably totally remote.

SENATOR MARESH: So you assure me that this will be posted on the pump if it is one and seven tenths...

SENATOR WARNER: No, I would assume that some people who would not want to post the price of the tax. I don't know if every station...there is nothing that prevents them from doing it, then the information will be readily available to them.

SENATOR MARESH: Is it presently in the law that they have to post this gas tax?

SENATOR WARNER: I am not aware that it is in the law, Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Thank you, Senator Warner.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, Mr. Speaker.