

April 9, 1980

LB 722

SENATOR WARNER: This year...now in the long run that is not necessarily true.

SENATOR HABERMAN: We have now attached to the bill that some of these funds will go to this urban or this transportation...

SENATOR WARNER: Only if we fail to appropriate general fund money as required by law. That's the only time that happens. Now we currently, as I have indicated, are appropriating roughly a million nine of general fund money. If we fully fund the provisions of that particular statute that authorizes that expenditure with general fund money, then there will be no draw down on highway user revenue. That only comes into the play if a future Legislature fails to appropriate the general fund.

SENATOR HABERMAN: So now we have got an iffy bill and they are going to get two cracks at it.

SENATOR WARNER: Pardon?

SENATOR HABERMAN: I say now...thank you, Senator Warner. Fellow Senators, now we have an iffy bill. If we do this, this won't happen, and if we don't do that, something else is going to happen, and we know one thing that we only know for sure is the gas tax is going to go up, and we also know for sure that the gas tax is going to go up as the price goes up and we know the price is going to go up, because that fellow in Washington is going to raise it ten cents. I can't remember his name...it isn't Powers, it's Carter, that's right, President Carter, so I am going to have to oppose 722 due to the amendments that have been attached onto it. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Lewis.

SENATOR LEWIS: Well, Mr. President, I am going to add my two cents, or one. Mr. President, I think that the bill has become a reasonable bill now. I think the two cents was too much. I think the exclusion of the cities in terms of 722 was unacceptable. I think the one-half a cent made that acceptable. Certainly the on the line commitment for mass transportation is important. I supported the Landis concept and the amazing thing is, Senator Lamb, most of the rural members voted against it. Senator Landis, I think that ought to be noted. But, again, that amendment, that loss of that amendment, does not preclude mass transportation in any county or in any city that chooses to have it throughout