

February 10, 1986 LB 1012

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Nelson would move to indefinitely postpone LB 1012.

SENATOR GOLL: Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: I wish to withdraw that amendment. I guess I'm just referring to the community college bill. Thank you.

SENATOR GOLL: Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. Speaker, members, this happens to be my priority bill so I'm kind of glad the IPP motion was taken off. Senator DeCamp says he would have put it up there. Yes, Pilot. (Laughter.) LB 1012, basically, does two things. It allows the Metro Area Transit Authority to increase the levy from 7 to 10 cents and it puts a sunset on it. There is a little misunderstanding that possibly it may be currently at 3 cents. It really is at 7, and the increase would only be to 10 cents. The reason for this is basically that there has been a serious decrease in nonlocal funding for the Transit Authority. Last year alone the legislative body here cut \$1.5 million from the funding that we give there. We reduced that from 1.7 million to \$265,000. The threat of federal cuts, whether they be Gramm-Rudman-Hollings, or some other type of federal reduction which is inevitable, would have a serious effect on the authority. This bill, 1012, allows them, in essence, to be self-sufficient if they need that. The reason that I chose it as a priority bill is that I represent a district that relies on the Transit Authority. These people cannot get to work, cannot get to school, they cannot travel about in any fashion other than the bus. They just flat can't afford to. I would urge the body to support this bill. I know that it may be considered special legislation, and I would even consider it more special for the people that I represent. They are a very low to moderate income group, and without the buses they would probably be in a worse situation. They would probably have to go to something that we all oppose, and that being welfare, because they need the transportation that is provided for them to earn a living, and for them to go to school, for them to get to the doctor and other things. So I would urge the body to quickly move on 1012. It is a good bill. Thank you, Mr. President.