HB 1023 -- Excise Tax on Cigarettes

Sponsor: Kelly (24)

This bill increases the excise tax on cigarettes from 17 cents to 98 cents per pack of 20 cigarettes. The revenue generated by the additional tax, less 3% for the compensation of wholesalers for affixing the tax stamps, will be distributed as follows: 30% to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; 20% to the Department of Higher Education; 15% for capital improvements to and repair and maintenance of state buildings and for payments on any bonds issued for the capital improvements; 10% to the Department of Public Safety; 5% to the Department of Health and Senior Services; 5% to the Department of Mental Health; and 15% to the General Revenue Fund.

The bill contains a referendum clause and will be submitted to qualified voters in November 2011.