

March 26, 1974

will pay in the area of the State Highway Patrol which incidentally is under the supervision of this government activity anyway. Which is about \$8 million dollars and take it out of the \$20 million dollars, you still have \$12 million dollars left and the Highway Department can do anything it wants to except it can't spend money to match federal funds which are not available for those type of highways. Now this morning I read in a newspaper, the World Herald, in which Mr. Tiemann, a former governor who is now head of the Federal Highway Department, has said there are \$2 million dollars of federal funds available to those states who want to qualify in order to build bicycle paths and sidewalks and roadways for the civilians. This is somewhat of a new project which has only been authorized by the federal and which we can match on the 70-30 basis, the federal puts up 70 and we put up 30. Now there's lots of places in the State of Nebraska in which this \$2 million could be used in order to provide the method on right-of-way owned by the state and federal government collectively in order to put up and eliminate some of the hazard that now exists.

PRESIDENT: Excuse me, Senator Carpenter, will you please have it quiet in the chamber particularly under the balcony. Some of our members can't hear the discussion. Thank you.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now, we're attempting to determine two things. This Body...Does this Body want to go on record that you want the Highway Department to build highways normally built by joint financial effort of the federal and the state. Which in primary, the federal puts up 70 and we put up 30. Do you want the state to put up the 100% and proceed to build these roads?

(End of Belt 8)

(Begin Belt 9)

In the case of the interstate, do you want the state to put up 100% where under normal conditions if the federal had the money available, you'd only put up 10%. Now I can say without fear of controversy the State of Nebraska has matched this year and last year and several years every dollar the federal government has. Now you can see how stupid I am because I didn't know these things because the Highway Department never told us that I've ever heard of anyway. The administration has never advised us. I've been trying to find ways and means of increasing the gas tax in order to create a fund in order to do what obvious I presume most people like to do. The administration has asked for the authority to issue \$10 million in bonds when they've got \$20 million on hand. Now it seems to me somewhere along the line there's some fiscal irresponsibility. We've been accused over here of being completely irresponsible at various periods of time and it seems to me this would be in reverse. Let me ask Senator Kremer, have you ever been advised by the Highway Department they're building millions of dollars of roads entirely out of state funds which could be matched if the matching was available by the federal government?

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Carpenter, my answer would have to be no. I was not aware of it until I learned about it about