

April 29, 1975

SENATOR MURPHY: I was curious as to the ability to identify that amount based upon rides hat...something that has already transpired. How do we identify what amount of money that is going to total up to I would say on a retroactive basis. Do we have some kind of record keeping done?

SENATOR FOWLER: Yes, this communities that wanted to be involved or were involved had to sell tickets in advance. This is a mechanism that is used in Omaha. They sell a ticket to the Senior Citizen and then that is used in computing the amount for reimbursement. So if a community is to apply for having to justify a certain number of 10¢ rides they must produce a record of having sold so many of these. As far as I know the one community that has done this and would apply retroactive funding is the city of Lincoln. I'm not sure that other communities chose to do it.

SENATOR MURPHY: This would be done...this would be submitted to the highway department under your present funding?

SENATOR FOWLER: Right, it will go to the Department of Roads.

SENATOR MURPHY: Now then, the other thing that I did have a question on, and again I visited with Senator Fowler a little bit, this proposition that this state will share with any deficit and I don't know that there is any limitation as to the extent of that deficit whether any would be any deficit up to 25% of the operational total cost or 50% and if in some event, which is really not heard of any more the federal government should withdraw from the funding on that, are we still bound by the total deficit by which would then become quite substantial.

SENATOR FOWLER: The mechanism in the bill provides for a paying up to 50% of the operational deficit, and the definition of the deficit is those funds other than the operating cost minus revenues minus federal available funds. Now there is provision in the bill for pro-ration of that 50% across the board if funding is now provided by the Legislature. We are not required to match money, a ceiling is set at 50% and we can fund less than that if we so choose. If for some reason federal funds are withdrawn and we did not anticipate that we would then pro-rate the money across if we did not have full 50% funding. Were not required to provide 50%.

SENATOR MURPHY: Then it would be up to the appropriations committee to determine the ultimate state dollars that the state might be involved in on an annual basis?

SENATOR FOWLER: Yes, the appropriations committee, the Legislature and the Governor. It would go the appropriation process. This does not man-date any amount, just establishes a ceiling.

SENATOR MURPHY: Thank you.