

about those kind of things when priorities start getting in the way of each other like in this case, roads and teachers salaries. I'm serious. If we could preserve these funds from this source and the senators around here that tell us, you know, honestly I think, tell us that they would like to see the teacher's fund fully reestablished at the \$20 million, let's do that. We've got plenty of...we've got plenty of sources of that money. I'm telling you, the Appropriations Committee doesn't know how 95 percent of the money in this state is spent. I bet you if we tried hard enough we could find it. We could find it, it's there, and then let's put this money back that we're using for teachers from this source back into the highway funds. It's as simple as that. But don't say that any of us said there is a pot of gold out there. You know, we didn't say there was a pot of gold because of the 1059, but I could probably say there's a pot of gold for outside consultants and there is a pot of gold for other ways the state spends money that we know nothing about that we probably could look at and probably should look at if we're ever given the chance and I would challenge the Appropriations Chairman and all the people on the Appropriations Committee and the members of this Legislature on the one hand say they want to support teachers, but on the other hand want to spend it on roads to find a way. I didn't mention when I talked about when the state took over some responsibilities a long time ago for counties, for people who were in state institutions. The reason we started those local programs with about that half a million dollars is was we were afraid they would take that money that wasn't earmarked and spend it on roads in Douglas County. We thought some of these people who were MR and other disabled folks deserved some help too, rather than languishing at home or in a state institution that maybe we could develop some local alternatives for them to both, and we did and it was a great source of funds. When I look at how that money was spent, I look at that with a hell of a lot more pride than I look at some fancy road with a bunch of trees on it myself. So it's in your own heart and in your own priorities of how you think the money ought to be spent. We're not trying to use a pot of gold, we're trying to reestablish a fund that's more than...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...justified and I think we should not support reconsideration. We should proceed with this, find ways to fully fund it and then give the money back as we probably could