

February 13, 1979

LB 112

a mere increase in the speed limit is going to appreciably increase the wear and tear on the highways but I believe there could be differences of opinion honestly engaged in as to the impact of what is being sought ultimately by the truckers here. Now on the one hand, the truckers think I am a nice fellow because I want to increase the speed limit but if I say I am concerned about the length of the truck and the weights that ultimately they will be shooting for, then I become an evil fellow. So this should do away with all of the arguments that people have been giving that I am in the pay of the truckers lobby. As a matter of fact, with the trouble that I had on my little Honda, I may not have to worry about that because one of the trucks may just suck it up the exhaust or some other way dispose of me when they find out my position on this particular issue but I do want it clearly understood what I am looking at here. This year the longer trailer. Next year add the longer power unit. Then we will be talking about the inefficient utilization of space. Why allow a truck and a tractor on the highway with all this space that is not being used? Then you have got to say, yes, that makes sense. So you say, we will allow you to use this space and they will say, but that means we have to add a little weight and we say, yes, we know if you have to put more items and take up more space it will weigh more. Then they have got you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President and colleagues, I have a question of Senator Kremer.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kremer, will you respond?

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Kremer, I don't understand how trucks are taxed. By this provision that you are introducing to increase the length and the load of these trucks, on the basis as to how they are taxed right now, will this increase the amount of tax that these trucks will generate?

SENATOR KREMER: Rolling stock today is not taxed as far as sales tax is concerned. Do you remember that when the sales income tax was discussed on this floor and in committee, I was on Revenue Committee. The railroads felt that their rolling stock should not be taxed sales tax, or the repairs of them. The trucking industry came in and said if you are going to grant that to this type of transportation, we want it too. Consequently, sales tax