

March 24, 1980

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is presently in the law and then take out your pencil and paper and explain to me how you do what that law says you shall do as the County Treasurer. It relates to the reciprocity funds that come back to the state in roughly the amount of I would say nine million dollars subject to correction by Senator Warner, which he probably will do, but thirty percent of that goes to the County Treasurer, seventy percent goes to the Highway Trust Fund, and then we proceed to tell the County Treasurer that he gets thirty percent...his share of that thirty percent that goes to the counties is based on the number of motor vehicles in the county as compared to the number of motor vehicles in the state, and I find no problem with that. But then you look at subsection (3) and that tells the County Treasurer how to distribute it to the county, and the first part of that paragraph says that he shall allocate the funds based on the motor vehicles in each subdivision of government as compared to the number of motor vehicles in the county totally. And I have no problem with that only we keep right on going after telling him to allocate the funds in that manner and tell him to distribute the funds based on the proportionate tax levy as compared to all other subdivisions the same formula that we used on 518 funds, and unless we are going to send him twice as much money as he is entitled to, I don't know how he can do it twice in two different manners. I am asking that we take out the language that says he shall allocate the funds based on the motor vehicles in each district because that is a function he will have to go through specifically for this purpose, and asking that we leave in the second part of that instruction which will have him distribute those funds based on the comparative tax budgets of the subdivisions which is the formula he will already have in place for use in distributing this 70 million dollars of funds that goes back under our personal property tax refund. It is one less operation. I chased that thing up one wall and down the other, and everybody told me it was working, but nobody could break down a hundred thousand dollars and tell me how to distribute it. So I suggest that we take out the reference to motor vehicles as a basis for distribution. The impact, I think, is irrelevant. I know the mechanics of the thing would be unfortunate and I would not want to make a bet on how many people do it. In checking Lancaster County, their ultimate explanation of how they do it was that the computer prints out what they are supposed to do, and when I asked who fed the computer, they said, IBM. So I think that we ought to simplify it. I don't think the County Treasurer should have to decide which one of those methods he should use.

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