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true, if we are to believe the proponents of that bill, then we should have a marked decrease in the damage done to our state and local highways and I'm not so sure that we need any increase in the gas tax and I would certainly oppose this amendment until we get some further facts because if we can justify this kind of an increase, then perhaps we were not justified in passing the ban on the studded snow tires.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Hefner and then Senator Keyes.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I support the Nichol amendment and the way I understand it, the Nichol amendment raises it from ten and a half cents to twelve cents. Is that right? Could I ask Senator Nichol this question? I would like to ask Senator Nichol a question, please?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol, do you yield?

SENATOR NICHOL: If it is easy.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Nichol, the way I understand your amendment, your amendment doesn't raise it a nickel. Does it? It raises a cent and a half?

SENATOR NICHOL: That is correct. It goes from ten and a half to twelve.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you. I would just like to say this to the body. The State Highway Department needs money. The counties need money for roads and bridges. The villages and cities need more money. Last year we raised the gas tax a penny a gallon, from nine and a half to ten and a half cents. Yet we didn't raise any extra dollars and we all know what inflation is doing to highway construction, what it is doing to maintenance of roads and so we are really getting behind in all of our road programs. If we pass this amendment we will raise approximately another fourteen or fifteen million dollars and as we divide this money up between the state and the villages and the cities and the counties, I think this would be a step in the right direction. I certainly urge for the adoption of this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Keyes.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, first I would like to ask Senator Nichol what he is doing and how much tax we are getting on this year?