

March 31, 1980

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the highways in Omaha. That ought to help. So personally I don't think we need any increase in the gas tax. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Mr. President, if you feel we have discussed this long enough I would like to ask to call the question.

SENATOR CLARK: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. The question before the House is cease debate. All those in favor vote aye, all those opposed vote nay. Voting aye, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Record the vote.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate is ceased. Senator DeCamp, do you wish to close?

SENATOR DE CAMP: Mr. President, if you don't think it is difficult standing up here and suggesting a major, major increase in taxes on gasoline, then you are crazy. You know it is and it is an easy one, Senator Haberman. It is an easy one to jump up and say, by God, I can demagogue this one. I can show I am just a big, tough, onery, conservative interested in saving money. Yesterday Senator Haberman slapped \$75,000,000 in state aid on us, state aid, property tax relief, sure. Uh huh. The roads in this state are in trouble. Don't wait for Uncle Sugar to give you the money to fix them. Uncle Sugar is broke. Now what I am telling you with this amendment, which doesn't stand a Chinaman's chance in hell, I know, what I am telling you with this amendment is simply this. The time of counting on everybody else to do your building, your helping, your new programs is over. You are going to have as good of roads as you pay for and if you are going to be paying for them, I think those who use them should pay for them. I travel, Senator Haberman. I drive fifty thousand miles a year, have every year since I can remember. I will pay more on this than just about anybody in this body, I would guess and maybe that is why I know how bad these roads are and I start seeing how much it is going to cost. If you have increased the cost of construction and repair three and four hundred percent because of oil increases and you have only increased your income to do it by five or seven percent,