

and that is Jerry Warner, not myself. What we are proposing to do...you can speak for yourself too, Senator Warner, pretty soon. What we are proposing to do though is to increase the license fees from the present rate of \$7 to \$10, and that, of course, would more than take care of the support we are going to provide to Driver's Education and it would provide in the area of \$700,000 of additional receipts, and this in turn would take care of the aid dollars we are recommending to go to the public schools. The county will continue to receive the same dollars they now receive to assist the state in administering the program. Those of you who may not be familiar with this, it is \$1.75 to the county. The amendment strikes, as I told you, the cash fund for Driver's Ed and places all receipts directly to the general fund and the amendment would require annual appropriation support to Driver's Ed at a rate of 8 hours per student, and, of course, again that is from forty to eighty and this fee increase will provide what we need. And the present anticipated balance of approximately \$135,000 on June 30, 1981 will be transferred into the state general fund to provide funds for the operative date in 1981. That is what the amendment does which is printed in the Journal. And the question is always, do we want to increase license fees? And we are putting it to you, we are suggesting that they be increased to \$10. The last time the license fee was increased was in 1977, and I don't think this is unreasonable. We all know we get a driver's license every four years if we can pass the test, and I don't think that the privilege of driving a car that license is excessive, and I am asking you to support this amendment. Thank you very much, Carol.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I would rise to support Senator Koch's amendment for several reasons, most of which he has outlined, but I do think in this particular instance that to have those funds deposited directly to the general fund and to be considered at what level it should be appropriated is the right way to go. Secondly, this amendment will preclude the reduction in the general fund or using general fund sources other than driver's licenses for the support of Driver Education. It also laps the unexpended balances in the fund now so there would be no reduction in availability of general fund money for this '81-'82 fiscal year, and I don't think it is unreasonable that cost for Driver Ed ought to be a part of the cost of license plates, and for that reason it makes sense to me also. So I think