

is not going to cut off funds should a state raise its speed limits. In the law right now is the power for the State Department of Roads to raise the speed limit on any freeway in the state whether it is in within or without the corporate limits of a city. So if the Reagan administration makes its move and if the Governor decides that he wants the speed limit at 65 as has been indicated by his saying he would not veto a bill raising it to 65, then he can direct the State Department of Roads to raise the speed limit to 65. Then the Governor becomes the hero of the populace which I guess he has a right to be. That is one of the benefits of being in the Governor's chair but the speed limit can be raised by the State Department of Roads on any freeway right now. So it can be raised to 65 miles per hour and it does not require any action by this Legislature and I would venture to say that should that occur we will find all these senators talking about safety again. Because the sign says they can go 65 they will go 65 so again we are dealing with variables and relativity. The amendment that I am offering simply would say that the speed limit on the interstate will be 60 miles per hour and the amendment is stated in such fashion, that it is clear that only on the interstate will the speed limit be raised to 60 miles per hour. So I hope you will look at this as that word that I dread to even allow to come out of my mouth, a compromise, and adopt it. It still is close enough to the speed that people are driving that I think it is reasonable. 55 is unreasonable. 60 is not as reasonable as it could be but it is a step in the right direction so I hope you will support this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I would just say briefly that I would support that compromise. This debate has been so long that many of us may have forgotten what the majority on the Public Works Committee recommended to you in the beginning was that we have an honest 60 miles an hour speed limit. So I am happy that Senator Chambers has finally seen the wisdom of what the Public Works Committee recommended. Thank you, Senator Chambers.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers to close on his motion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I think Senator Beutler knew when he told me that the bill was still in committee that he was going to help amend it to 60 and that is probably what it would be but being hard-headed,