## February 19, 1981

LB 143

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, and I will very brief. I doubt that anything new can really be said on this issue and the only item that was injected into the discussion that is somewhat different is the article's coverage of comments made by Mr. Reagan last night saying that the money that was available to enforce the fifty-five mile an hour limit is going to be cut off, that they still are not in favor of trying to coerce the states into having a fifty-five mile per hour limit and even stated that there are areas in the western part of the country where they are opposed to the enforced limit. So I think these are indications that federal funds are not going to be cut off. I don't really think that is a primary issue in anybody's mind anyway, but if it is, if we pass the bill as soon as possible, we will get an answer to this question for everybody in the country precisely what will the administration do and we will still be in session with a 'arge number of days, and if it becomes necessary to take additional action to protect funds or whatever, there is time to do that. So what Senator Kahle said is something that I have heard a great deal that it should be raised at least ten miles per hour, and one of the arguments that was given was in changing the speed limit signs even. Rather than having to change two digits, both fives to a six and a zero, then only the first one is changed to a six. Now that had not been an argument that I had made or even considered but it might be something to think about. I think Senator Fenger's amendment is reasonable. It is what I wanted in the first place, but when the bill moved off General File, I said I wouldn't make such a motion so I wasn't going to make it and I didn't.

SPEAKER MARVEL: We have an amendment on the desk. The Clerk will read the amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Marsh moves to amend the Fenger amendment by striking 65 and inserting 55.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, this is what we ought to be doing. Think of the money we will save. We will not have to change any of the speed limit signs. Think of the lives we will save. We will not have to encourage people to drive over fifty-five miles an hour. Think of the gasoline, the energy, the motor fuel which can be saved for our children and grandchildren in the generations to come. This is your opportunity to do what is right as well as save money for the State of Nebraska. How much will it cost to change the signs? Thousands and thousands of dollars, perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars and you will not have to expend it if you adopt this amendment.