

it hasn't been to the highest courts in the land or anything like that, I am satisfied that it would be. However, with the train mile the railroads in this state have reached agreement and stated publicly on the record before the Public Works Committee that if this is passed they will not challenge it in the courts and they will accept it. Now you say to yourselves as I did, why would the railroads do that? Why would these multibillion dollar empires do that? And I will tell you the very simple reasons. Because they are scared. Because nobody ever got a ton mile tax passed before and they are afraid if Nebraska does it, gets away with it, other states will do the same, and they can see it costing millions by tens of millions more. I am not worried about other states. I am worried about Nebraska. I am willing to give up ton mile, the thing that I pushed through, in return for train mile because that gets me money in Nebraska without a court fight immediately to begin building the overpasses, and if you have got your handout from the League of Municipalities, look at the front. They were the very arguments I used originally in getting ton mile. Have you waited for a coal train? You bet ya, we have. What about an ambulance? What about if your house were burning, so on and so forth? We need to begin building the overpasses. We need the railroads to start help paying for it. So I urge adoption of the...or advancement of the bill and adoption of this alternate proposal. You have received piles of information on the specific details. It will raise about two million this year, begin effective July 1st, start raising the money. We will have a tap of ten million in other words. Instead of just piling up money, it is going to force us to use it to start building things instead of just letting it pile up like it used to. It will repeal some existing statutes which I am sure there is going to be quite a bit of discussion here shortly about that deal with cities and towns and you have received some flak on that but we can discuss that separately when that amendment is offered. So I urge advancement of the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: Before we recognize Senator Kahle, it is my privilege to introduce 90 students, fourth graders from Miller Park, Omaha, Nebraska, and the teacher is Beth Hudson, Sue Cuva, Sally Louison and Loretta Johnson in the North balcony. Will you raise your hands so we can see where you are? We wish you "Good morning". Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker, would the Clerk read the amendment or is that out of place at this time?