

February 23, 1982

LB 969

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, would you respond, please?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: These firms that were fined, the firms that were fined a couple million dollars, where did that fine money go?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Senator Haberman, my aide has been checking that out this morning. We have checked with Judge Urbom's Court and the Probation Office of the U.S. District Court, and our information is that the tentative report subject to finalization is it will go into the United States Treasury.

SENATOR HABERMAN: That it went where?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: That it will go into the United States Treasury, because there was a fine levied in federal court, and that is one of the problems we want to take care of here, Senator Haberman. We want to recover that money for the people in the State of Nebraska that pay taxes on gasoline to finance the roads.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Then the intent of your bill is that that fine money and future fine money will be returned to the general fund of the subdivisions in the State of Nebraska?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Well, Senator Haberman, as you know under state law, fine money has to go to....

SENATOR HABERMAN: Must go to schools.

SENATOR HOAGLAND:schools, school funds, right. Now, what this bill does is it will permit the Department of Roads to set up a restitution procedure and it will be called restitution to the State Road Funds rather than fines that have to go into the school funds. And it is Senator Fowler's and my belief that if we don't have this bill, any monies that the contractors have to pay back are going to have to go into the school fund instead of going back into the Department of Roads fund to reimburse the taxpayers for their monies lost.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Do you think that this bill can be done and gotten so that we can save the money that has been fined now? Put that fine money back now?