

sort of a sacred way,...

SENATOR HALL: Correct.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...the need for the expansion of road systems and the maintenance of road systems as compared to programs like, for example, teachers salaries. An editorial comment I would add, I think if we're going to talk about sales tax increases for education costs we will be discussing here later sales tax increases for the 30 to 40 million dollar increase for the university, et cetera. If we're going to talk about aid to education bills we're going to talk about raising funds for salaries, we have to, I think, to be consistent, consider sales tax considerations every time these come along. And then this further, the reason I asked the question, that would further complicate what we're discussing now because, keep that in mind, if the Warner amendment were passed and those sales taxes were seriously considered that would be even an additional windfall to the Highway Trust Fund.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, let me begin by saying that I understand clearly what Senator Warner is attempting to do with his amendment. He wants the distribution formula that applies to the present 4 percent sales tax that is being collected now to also apply to the 1 percent. I am telling you that you don't have to worry about an inconsistency with the statute that can only be handled with Senator Warner's amendment. You can amend the distribution statute so that it will not apply to this new 1 percent. By the way, I'm opposed to the increase, period. I'm opposed to the sales tax increase. If it's added to 89 then I don't have to labor and sweat within myself about this bill anymore because I'll do everything I can to defeat it. I'm just one vote and one person, you probably have 48 who are for it. So mine will just be a voice crying in the wilderness. But you could also take care of the problem by allowing the new 1 percent increase, if you take it, to go only to the two items that Senator Schmit mentions in his amendment, not talking about whether they're good or bad at this point. Then you can amend the distribution statute so that it will not apply to this additional 1 percent. So I would suggest that you reject Senator Warner's amendment. I looked at the section that he mentioned, that we don't have before us, and to be frank I'm not able, right at this instant,