

it quiet, please, so we can hear the speakers. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: More specifically, the bill was introduced to create the form to develop the understanding of the amount of revenue that is going to be required in the event that the Legislature wishes to proceed with the accelerated highway improvement that was proposed in two different...and enacted in two different bills last session, at least, the requirement for the Department of Roads to present a plan on which the Legislature then could make a judgment as to its financing. But based upon that, as indicated the other day, the anticipated receipts on a full 12-month basis is about \$14 million of which about 7.8 of that would go to the Highway Trust Fund for the...or eventually to the Highway Cash Fund, and the balance of it of about 3.5 million would each go to the counties and to the cities as the way the current law requires for the distribution of the Highway Trust Fund. But, more importantly, since the proposal for the accelerated highway program would require at least \$35 million increase over and above what is currently appropriated this year, in order do the first four years of the plan, the issue before the Legislature of alternatives, if they choose to do it, is a mixture of funds of using solely the motor fuel tax which would take roughly three and a half cents on the variable, which because one cent raises approximately 10 million, or you could use a combination of fund sources, one of which would be the sales tax on motor vehicles in the amount of about 7.8 million on a 12-month basis. That is not quite a full cent of motor fuel tax but about eight tenths of a cent...

PRESIDENT: One minute, please.

SENATOR WARNER: ...but it would relieve the pressure of having Nebraska's motor fuel tax significantly higher than adjacent states and I think that is an important consideration. So I would oppose the amendment on the basis that this is not a windfall, that there is a very well established need for additional revenue for an improved highway system in the state. It's consistent with the direction that was given by the Legislature last session in two different pieces of legislation and certainly the...one could not argue that there is not a need for that additional revenue if it is the desire of the body to see their accelerated highway program completed.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hefner is next, but may I...(gavel), let's please hold it down, it seems to be making an