

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is the adoption of the Hall amendment to LB 813. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator Hall's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Withem would move to amend.

SPEAKER BARRETT: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Hefner would move to amend the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, this amendment is AM1786, and it deals with Section 30. This is the Department of Roads budget and this budget includes an increase of 3.5 or approximately 3.5-cent per gallon variable fuel tax. This amendment, AM1786, is found on page 2291, or I also passed out an informational sheet to you on it. But this amendment calls for a 2-cent per gallon increase for Fiscal Year '89 and '90, and leaves a 3.5-cent increase per gallon for the next Fiscal Year, 1990-1991. A 2-cent per gallon increase in the variable fuel tax would raise approximately \$20 million a year. With using 50 percent federal funds, the total amount of the increase would be approximately \$30 million that the Department of Roads would have. This \$30 million would be an increase over what the Department of Roads received this fiscal year. I left the 1990-1991 Fiscal Year in place, with is a 3.5 percent (sic) gallon increase. This would raise approximately \$35 million. Again, using the 50 percent federal funds, the total amount of the increase would be approximately \$52.5 million over this fiscal year's budget. With fuel prices rising and increasing approximately 25 percent this spring, an increase of nearly 20 percent in our fuel tax would cause, I feel, much concern to the people in Nebraska. Ladies and gentlemen, the natives in Nebraska are getting restless. They have seen a 25 percent increase in fuel prices. They're dealing with a drought at the present time. Hopefully we'll get some rain this week yet. And now we come with a 3.5 percent (sic) per gallon fuel tax increase. My amendment would feather the 3.5 percent (sic)