

May 16, 1989

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day...using it. So when I pay a lot of money for gas but I think it's...we need to keep our roads up, we need to go ahead with our...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HARTNETT: ...with our program for economic development and for the betterment of the state, so I oppose this amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Langford.

SENATOR LANGFORD: Call the question, please.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Five hands I do see. Shall debate now close? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 26 ayes, no nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Hefner to close.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I think we've had a good debate on this and, Senator Warner, I appreciate the statement that you made that said that now, with the increased amount of money that the state will use from the increased gas tax, we will...we won't be able to match it 50 percent with federal funds. I didn't have this information. But I think this has been a good debate this morning. I think it brought up some of the things that were going on and I didn't know that the Appropriation Committee had put this proposal into the budget until after it was advanced to the floor, and so I wanted to alert the whole body of what was going on. I think we all want better roads, I certainly want better roads, and we certainly need them if we are going to continue on our economic development binge, and I certainly am a strong supporter of that. And I realize it takes a lot of money, takes a lot of dollars, to build good roads. It's hard to believe that it would take this much money, but it does, and I, too, want an accelerated road program. I'll admit, Senator Moore, that gas and diesel prices are very volatile and I don't know how we'll get away from that. As long as the OPEC countries control the supply of our oil products I guess it will always be that way, but it is very volatile, and now with the 3.5-cent a gallon increase in taxes that will increase it a little more. Somebody mentioned that Kansas has increased their sales tax and part of