

the Highway Trust Fund are well used. I have criticized them because I do think that they don't have the same scrutiny as we do the rest of our budget items. I think that that trust fund sits out there and, outside of the Appropriations Committee, very few of us have the opportunity to look into those, or the time. The opportunity, I guess, is always there. But at this point in time I would urge you to reject Senator Haberman's amendment, basically so we don't pull Senator Warner out of his sick bed. With that, Mr. President, thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, would you care to discuss the Haberman amendment, Senator Nelson on deck.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I would oppose the Haberman amendment and I think the reasons that Senator Hall just gave are more than adequate and accurate. I think you have to remember that sometimes we pay whether we pay or not. I know that is true in this case of education, but it is particularly true as described by Senator Hall. The people in that Omaha area who are going to be involved in having to find a new way to get to work for the next three or four or five years are going to pay many, many times more perhaps than the actual cost of the construction, and so I think that if we're going to raise this, we at least ought to be willing to put the money into the road fund. After all, if you're going to have all this extra money for schools, we ought to remember that we have to have some money for roads, Senator Haberman, out in the counties and the cities to get those school buses around because a great portion of that money is going to be spent hauling children around the countryside, not all to literary activities, of course, much of it is going to be athletic, but they're going to be on the road. In fact, they're probably on the road far too high a percentage of the time. I think that as I listen to the debate here I cannot help but wonder, we want to save 11 million bucks Senator Haberman said, or 15, depending on the point of view. I recall the debate on LB 773 in 1987. I was standing here and I turned to Senator Rex, Senator Vard Johnson and I said, Senator Johnson, will this be revenue neutral? And he said, no, it's going to raise your taxes by 5 to 7 million dollars a year. I said, what about five to ten times that much? He said, Senator Schmit, as usual you exaggerate. The facts were that I minimized it. I was hitting about 15 percent. All of a sudden 773 became law and revenue came in from all over, several hundred millions, I don't know, depends upon who you listen to, 200 million, 300 million. We were in hog heaven. We spent it all, as any