

March 23, 1992      LB 1272

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: No.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: What level would you be satisfied with from the Highway Trust Fund into the future?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: The 14.6, something that we would have a base or that, 14 or \$15 million, something that we'd have that base that we would have that we could then go with General Funding whatever the General Funds would allow us to be able to do.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: And so when we have this discussion about permanent funding sources, what we're really talking about is just that amount that you're going to take from the Highway Trust Fund now, the seven to \$14 million depending on how this all shakes out, but that you would not be back in the future after Highway Cash Funds or additional...let's say we raised the sales tax to pay for some personal property tax things or let's say we raise sales tax to raise money for Medicaid and part of that cent obviously is going to go to the Highway Trust Fund, right? Would education as a sponsor of this amendment, would that be your intent that you should get that cent out of there as well when you raise sales tax in the future?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Doug, I want to be as honest as possible and forthright, I cannot say what all others would do. I personally would not be.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Well the people that you've discussed this with, has that ever been brought up or discussed?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: No.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Okay. Thank you, and I will yield you some time at the end because I think that, for me, that's a very valid discussion. Is that you're talking about a policy choice here in the future. If you're going to need 60 to \$70 million to adequately fund those, and I have no reason to believe that that's not an accurate figure, is that are you going to continue every time you raise the sales tax and let's say we put a sales tax increase because we have Medicaid problems next year. The same policy argument, they're going to come back and say on March 23, 1992 discussion was had that we knew full well that that money, that cent, whenever we raise sales tax increases,