

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay. Then you felt that the program wasn't a good enough program so that the Appropriations Committee didn't want to fund it, or voted not to fund it?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, I guess that, as I mentioned, we thought it was a worthy program, that's why we funded it last year. Unfortunately, because of the few dollars available this year all being chewed up by Medicaid, there was simply not the money in the bank unless we were willing to cut something else and so for that reason the committee did not talk about it that much this year.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay, thank you, Senator Moore. I still think it's poor policy to go ahead and implement a tax for a certain purpose and the purpose this year would be for the teachers incentive pay. However, I certainly don't want to see it come out of the Highway Trust Fund either because like I said yesterday and last week, that the need for a good highway program...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HEFNER: ...is very great. So at the present time it looks like it's going to be a tough decision to make, to know what exactly to do to get a little more money for the teachers. I guess I would just like to see it go through the Appropriations Committee, then if there isn't enough money in the General Fund, well go ahead and increase the sales and income tax a little bit. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. We have an amendment to the amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Lamb would move to amend Senator Schrock's amendment. (Lamb amendment appears on pages 1538-39 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. This amendment would tax beer instead of pop. It would raise the same amount of money, but it seems to me that if we're going to go this direction it would be much more appropriate to tax beer, an additional tax on beer than on pop. It somehow doesn't seem