

March 27, 1996

LB 1190

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's very correct.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: This is simply a reallocation, temporarily, of 2 cents of cigarette tax.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay, thank you, Senator Wehrbein. And then if I could ask my colleague on the Appropriations Committee, Senator Lynch, a question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Lynch, will you respond?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yes.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Senator Lynch, if I understand one of your concerns relative to this particular bill is that the funds that would normally be going to the 309 Committee will be used for something other than building construction. Is that part of your concern?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah, that's simply a small part of it.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Huh?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah, that's part of it, right.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: That's part of it? Okay. My question is relative to another issue that we've been discussing. If we didn't...if it were the will of the Legislature to not allocate the couple cents of the current gas tax to the conversion, date change, would you think it would be appropriate that those funds be available, if it were the will of the Legislature, for prison construction?

SENATOR LYNCH: No, at this...well, I'll put my light on 'cause what you're asking questions are individual questions about individual projects, and that's been one of our problems, you'll find probably justification in a lot of ways for a lot of things. And I'll answer the...

SENATOR MAURSTAD: So, in essence, I'm not going to...this will be the end of my time, and so you can use the balance of my time, if you would like, to elaborate. I just wanted to make