

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment is not agreed to. The call is raised. Mr. Clerk, anything further on the bill?

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Maurstad, will you make your motion?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Mr. President, I move to advance LB 1264 to E & R for engrossment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Kristensen, it still is a debatable motion so you are recognized to speak on the motion.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. It's late in the afternoon, Mr. President. I apologize for rising here. I rise to explain a little bit about what may occur with this bill and so people do not have unrealistic expectations. During debate this afternoon, there was some discussion about the millions of dollars that may flow to all of these different, wonderful and good reasons. And the comment was made that the Highway Trust Fund or all the money should go into one place and that the Highway Trust Fund probably doesn't have any relationship to the plate. Let me tell you if it wasn't for the Highway Trust Fund, there wouldn't be a plate. The Highway Trust Fund pays for the plates ahead of time, and what this fee is going to do is reimburse them for the cost of manufacture. And if people get carried away with this plate and want fancy embossed emblems on them, want multiple colors, want a variety of different things, the less money there's going to be for these other projects because it's contemplated at reimbursing the Highway Trust Fund. The average cost of a plate is a little less than \$1.50. We just this year corrected a problem with motorcycle plates that had seven characters for message plates. The cost to manufacture for that plate was \$50. And so what's very important about this is that you're going to make sure that you reimburse that fund for the cost of the plate first before you do any of these other things. I just want to make sure that people understand that if you're going to get carried away with what the plate's going to look like, you're going to have less monies to spend or to have in these different facilities. So with that, I want to make sure that people understand that the Highway Trust Fund does have a place in here; otherwise, these plates would not be manufactured. And we want to make sure they're reimbursed first, then go on to our good and wonderful