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LB 408

other argument. When I was on the Transportation Committee, spent a lot of hours talking about that with the Highway Commission, who also had some of the similar frustrations of how much the expectations were between what the reality is that we are a small-population state that wants more than we can afford. So with this amendment, I would hope that you'll be a little more comfortable, that we'll be able to not do anything that most people think was too much in a 10 percent cut. This is a 5 percent cut. Remember, this is not to cities or counties. This is just to the road building portion of the state...the state's operating budget of the Highway Fund. And also remember that we're one of the states...and not all states do this...we dedicate sales tax to the Highway Trust Fund. And a lot of states don't give that sales tax. We're one of those states that earmarks it. They don't do it in Iowa. It's not a common thing everywhere in the country. We're one of the states that made a decision a few years back to dedicate sales tax on car sales. So really, that portion of the budget, to me, is...should be treated the same way as we treat all the other parts of the budget that we support with sales tax. It's just a fairness issue. And so with that, this is a much smaller amendment than it was before, and it gets us part of the way, and I urge you to support the amendment to AM1849.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Thompson. You've heard the opening on FA1361 to AM1849 to LB 408. Open for discussion on the floor amendment. Senator Dwite Pedersen, followed by Senator Kremer and others. Senator Dwite Pedersen? Is he...I do not see him. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. I will not take my full time, because I believe that it's been discussed pretty thoroughly, and I would repeat many of the things that are said. And I guess I have my light pressed for AM1849, but I will say the same thing for FA1361. My opposition now is going to be as Senator Raikes' mild opposition, what that was the other day, if you remember. And I do agree with Senator Thompson. We've been raiding a lot of funds. And I've been speaking against that all year. And many times, because of that, we had to come back and raise the user fees. One of them that I had...was involved with was the Weights and Measures.