

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 19, 2004      LB 1144

SENATOR KRUSE: That's accurate and that's...thank you for that. That's kind of a follow-up because I neglected to say that our intention is to leave the assessing, the certification, and that type of thing in Roads. They would be looking at the needs and then determining what's a reasonable budget for the coming year in the same way that they do the roads.

SENATOR BAKER: That's...thank you, Senator Kruse, that's exactly as I understand it, to place the evaluation, the final evaluation as to how much to fund this with the Appropriations Committee just like the Department of Roads does now with some road...the road budget. So I also will stand in support of the amendment and urge the body to adopt the amendment and advance the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Kruse amendment to LB 1144, Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Senator Kruse, if I could ask you a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Kruse.

SENATOR RAIKES: This would be...

SENATOR KRUSE: Yes.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...not only on the amendment but the bill itself. As I understand it, now a million and a half or so, I use the round numbers you did, comes out of sort of the base pot for highway funding, and currently you've got...you take that money out and you divide the rest up between the highway construction and the money that goes to cities and counties. So what your bill would do would say that we're no longer going to take that out of the base pot but we're going to drop down to the second level and take the million and a half out of the highway part. So to the extent that that works, the highways would get some more money because it's not taken out up at the top. On the other hand, they got to pay...they get a little more, they got to pay a lot more. Cities and counties, on the