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FLOOR DEBATE

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other hand, would get more. So in rough numbers is it true that this change would lead to about a \$500,000 increase in highway monies going to cities and counties and about a million dollar reduction in monies that are available for state road construction, the highway part? Am I on track or not?

SENATOR KRUSE: Well, you're close to on track and that's pretty good for...I won't follow that out. (Laughing) It would be...that's exactly right, a half a million goes back to cities and counties but that million from the Roads includes that half a million. So Roads only has a half a million that they have less claims on. Roads has to set aside a million dollars every year out of their precertified funds, and they won't have to do that anymore.

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, the question I'm trying to get to is that everything else held the same, suppose you wanted to keep the money available for statewide road construction constant, you would have to raise under this system compared to not having this system, you would have to raise gas taxes, is that right?

SENATOR KRUSE: Yes, you would raise gas taxes under 1/10th of a cent and then...but that includes the relief that's given to the General Fund. Roads will get the extra million dollars without changing anything because they've had to pay it out up to this point.

SENATOR RAIKES: But if you look at the fund available for highway construction at the state level, if that's the right way to describe it, when you count them soaking up the half a million dollars roughly that goes to cities and counties and also the half a million dollars that now comes out of the General Fund, they would, in effect, be short about a million dollars to do statewide road construction. And I think you're right, a tenth of a cent of the gas tax raises a little over a million dollars, \$1.2 million is what the fiscal note says. So if you wanted to keep road construction, statewide road construction at a constant level, this bill would, in effect, require an increase of the state gas tax something less than 1/10th of a cent.