

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

March 31, 2004      LB 1090

onto future generations. I'm also concerned about raiding that Highway Trust Fund, although we say that we're really not doing damage to it. I have a personal problem in one of my roads, actually it's the interchange that connects Bradshaw to the interchange to I-80. It's a state graveled road, and it's been graveled for over 40 years. And I'm constantly and continually going to fight for some additional funding to have that road paved. My support towards the income tax is lukewarm. I guess I generally would support the increase in the sales tax, just because whenever I visit with my constituents, they seem to feel that this is the fairest tax in the fact that if you buy something, you do pay for it, and also people traveling into our state also then share in that burden. And so those are some of my concerns, and I know that we are facing a dilemma, but I certainly appreciate the discussion that we've had this afternoon. Thank you, Mr. President, and I give the rest of my time back to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Mines, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. If you have been in government for any period of time, you have heard of CAVE people, C-A-V-E, CAVE people. I know in municipal government we talked of them all the time. CAVE people is an acronym for Citizens Against Virtually Everything. And the discussion these last two days on the floor of this body reminds me, in fact we embody the very essence of CAVE, except I think it's more appropriate if we call ourselves SAVE people, Senators Against Virtually Everything. Yesterday, we heard two proposals that would make very minor cuts in our budget, and neither one flew. In fact, we had quite a bit of opposition against cutting anything. Today, we have...we've talked about two different proposals and certainly one more is on the board, and they're...everyone seems to be against virtually everything. And that's the process, and that's the way it's going to work. Now I've joined...I've been a SAVE person as well. I've joined in the opposition to a fee on public power, I've joined in support of AM3454, and I've also opposed, in principle, increasing tax on income. Now I understand that if either this proposal or the proposal to add a fee on public power comes