

April 20, 1979

LB 138

of 1970...was that 72, Senator Warner? The cost, and you can correct me if I am wrong, the projected cost of that program was \$28,000,000, \$28,000,000. It is \$70,000,000 now. I am telling you this and I am suggesting to you that the poorest kind of government is the government that won't face up to the responsibilities in terms of putting the money up when you ought to. The Congress has done this to us a hundred times. They authorize and mandate that we will do such and so and they will fund it at such and such a level. They bring it in step by step by step by step and then we turn around and say how come you are spending more money? This is a big ticket item and it is a substantive issue that ought to be debated here but it shouldn't be debated under the sham of trying to get the foot in the door and shove it out. If Senator Kahle believes this, and if it is this big of an issue, he ought to come in with \$10,000,000 now and trigger the income tax now because it is going to be triggered by this bill. It is going to be triggered by this bill. The plain simple facts are \$10,000,000 plus inflation is going to equal more than 1% on the income tax. Now if Senator Kahle has some proposals to cut \$10,000,000 somewhere, but most of us who have supported issue by issue have been blamed in this Legislature for being the spenders, providing for the tax increases. The major tax increases in this state and I want the record clear, have been caused over the last five years by personal property rebates and now will be done by this. That is the major area increases and I think Senator Kahle and Senator Goodrich have the full responsibility and the Governor of this state has the full responsibility to say yes, this program ought to be implemented but we ought to have the personal courage to say let's do it now. As I read and heard the discussion, Senator Hefner said, well we got some road problems out there. I reread the numbers you are going to get, Senator Hefner, and you couldn't pave the road from the Hartington golf course to your service station with the amount of money you are going to get. The issue, and again, you are the ones that are being led down the road. You are the ones that are going to be blamed. It is going to be your horse that they are going to ride. If the Governor of the state really wants this program, then we ought to say, all right, let's do it. If the figure is 10%, if the figure is 5%, that is where we ought to be but it would appear to me that each of us should learn from our mistakes and the mistakes have been made that we have started two or three programs this way and I will guarantee you this. I will guarantee you this, that within four or five or six years the next move will be to take the other 10%

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