

March 7, 1980

LB 709

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I just want to comment on one portion of the committee amendment that I have a little concern about although it is not that important, but the taking of the Oil and Gas Commission out of the Transportation Service Bureau for purchase of vehicles. We reviewed that quite a bit during the appropriation hearing with both agencies and I think the problems that apparently had existed were being worked out between the agencies so the four-wheeled drive vehicles were available, could have been available. This resolves the issue as well but I would certainly, if this become a traditional thing, starting to pull agencies out of the Transportation Services Bureau, that I think would be a very bad precedent and we would get back to some of the many problems that we had before we created the Transportation Services Bureau and I just want to make that point, that further expansion would be very unfortunate.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Murphy.

SENATOR MURPHY: A question of Senator Kremer, as a matter of a clarification, Senator. The present severance tax on oil and gas goes directly to the school trust fund. Does it not?

SENATOR KREMER: I don't know where it goes. I know I don't get it. I know that.

SENATOR MURPHY: Senator Kremer, that was not the answer I wanted. No, I was curious what the correction was if we are changing the designation of those funds or what the problem... I can't believe my Board of Education would let there be any difficulty about collecting that tax that they get.

SENATOR KREMER: Senator Murphy, I believe it does not change where they go but it changes who collects them.

SENATOR MURPHY: I see, fine. I will try and get a better understanding...

SENATOR KREMER: There was a misunderstanding who was responsible for collecting the severance taxes, Senator Murphy, and this straightens that out. Maybe Senator Warner has a different version of it. This is the way I understand it.

SENATOR MURPHY: Oh, fine.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Warner.

8003