

March 31, 1980

LB 361

amendment. Senator Warner, do you wish to speak? Do you want to speak to the Nichol amendment, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: Yes. Mr. President, I understand this is an increase of one and a half cents from the current ten and a half. Well, Mr. President, I would rise to oppose the amendment. I have no big problem if 361 is advanced at one cent increase that...but I see no point in making it one and a half cent increase. It adds not all that much funds by the time it is distributed around. I would hope that we could advance 361 with this one cent adjustment and then 722 which essentially is designed and can only be used for funding of the state road system and perhaps Select File, some appropriate relationship between the two can be developed but I think a one cent adjustment to the allocation fund is the maximum that ought to be done at this time and I would hope that the body would reject this amendment and just go ahead and advance 361 with its one cent change.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I support Senator Nichol in this venture. In fact, I think it is still too low. I am concerned about the Warner bill that is coming up later and perhaps we should be able to debate them at the same time but if you think that the state is the only one that is having road problems, think again, because the cities and especially the counties are having a terrible time trying to maintain the bridges and roads and unless you can maintain those roads why the state roads don't do us really much good. So I would hope that you would beef this bill up to where at least it will help the counties and the cities as much as it helps the state and the ratio as you know divides it between the three. I know the state would like to get more money but in my own county they are not able to buy any equipment this year. They are going to have a rough time maintaining the roads and perhaps a little bit of improvement and if we continue this sort of a program for a number of years we are going to be in real trouble because you have to have bridges and you have to have roads in shape to get to the state highways. So I am not going to say at this point I oppose the other bill but I certainly would hope we could beef this one up because unless the other bill as amended to put some money in the counties and the cities, it is going to make a terrible hardship on them as well as the state and I know the state needs money. So those are my feelings and I hope you will vote for the Nichol amendment so we at least can get a little bit more in there while we are going over this bill. Thank you.