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LB 873

on the fact that you cannot wash a mud puddle.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Merz.

SENATOR MERZ: Mr. President and members of the body, I also rise in opposition to the Keyes amendment. I think there is a few things we have to consider. First of all, the Highway Department has more equipment and are better apt to take care of these roads than anybody else. That is under their jurisdiction to manage and maintain roads. Also, if we are going to give them this extra two cents tax, they are the ones that have the money and the finance to handle it, so if we are going to keep the bill I think we should oppose the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Mr. Chairman and members, I support the Keyes amendment. We had a very fine hearing on this bill. A number of farmers appeared and they were concerned because there was no good road and I mean this road in this little stretch around Schramm Park was not kept up simply because the department would not build to the specifications. It would allow them to use their route between Highway 31 and Highway 50. Now later on then the department, and there was no opposition to the bill, the department felt that it was too far-reaching and that with the Keyes amendment it would be limited to local jurisdiction. Now if there is other areas that have the same problem, I am sure the local people would take a look at it. I think the Keyes amendment is a good one. I think it does give added support to the bill and we ought to adopt it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I was just visiting privately with Senator Hoagland here concerning this bill. Senator, would you tell the legislators what you told me about the present roads and how they maintain their status?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Under this amendment, Senator Rumery, what will happen is if a road is part of the state system or part of the county system, or part of a municipal system, and then it becomes a scenic recreation road, why then that same jurisdiction will continue to maintain the road, and the purpose of this amendment is to make sure that happens.

SENATOR RUMERY: I think this is a very important point and I, for one, wanted the body to understand that.