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LB 559

raise revenues for the support of our highways through your LB 722, as I recall, I took a look at the Department of Roads' budget which is found on page 43 and 44 of our book and what the committee indicates is that you are going to provide full funding, full funding for this next fiscal year of the agency goals for the maintenance and construction of the state's highway system. I assume that this represents the first year now we will be operating on a whole new concept of appropriating dollars for our highways and roads. What kind of an analysis was made, Senator Warner, by the Appropriations Committee of the actual needs of the Road Department for the particular plan, for their agency goals they have for this year?

SENATOR WARNER: Okay. Senator Johnson, this year we had a different type of budget presentation because we really never delved into the active road program as we do now. There was an extensive presentation which boiled down to the agency providing to the Legislature what I would call measurable objectives in terms of what road work would be done or expected to be done in the twelve months beginning July 1 and included in that was, and I don't have it here with me, I should have brought it up, but it was all in miles or feet, if that was the appropriate, but what we will be able to do next year is see whether or not they met the objective of measurement if they met the goal that they had anticipated. From a dollar amount to be appropriated from highway user fees including the variable tax is \$108,372,789 and that is the figure that would be used to determine that amount of tax to be raised.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thanks, Senator Warner.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Warner, again, one more question if I may, and a short one I hope. I am on page 42, the Department of Public Institutions and I notice that the committee recommendation which is \$82,700,000 and some is in the neighborhood of four and a half or five million above the Governor's recommendation and two million above the agency recommendation and I wasn't sure from the explanatory notes below what was happening there. Do you have any comment that would explain basically what that money is?

SENATOR WARNER: Okay, two things primarily I guess, Senator Beutler, would be the difference. One is the difference in the salary policy because that is a labor intensive agency. Also included in this dollar amount but shows in the A bill