

accounting for the money that already is there, we have bills that come in and say give more money. We just got out of the throes of the worst part of a bid rigging scandal in this state, and from what I have read, that investigation is not over yet. So before we give additional money, I would like to see a better way to deal with what already is being raised in terms of taxes on fuel. I am opposed to the advancement of this bill and I am opposed to the tax. I am opposed to raising the variable gas tax. I am opposed to new highways being run through various people's neighborhoods. I am opposed to land being taken by the University for roads and parking lots so I have a general philosophical attitude that makes me very skeptical about new taxes that are raised for those purposes. There might be one or two cities in the state that will say that they need this, but from the way the bill reads, I guess, every gallon of gasoline is going to have another penny on it. But before I misstate anything, I would like to ask one of those who is on this bill, I don't see Senator Withem. Senator Withem is not here. Is Senator Hartnett here? Senator Hartnett, which gas sold where will carry this additional penny tax on it?

SENATOR HARTNETT: All of it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Anywhere in the state?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Bellevue is the one that really needs it though, isn't it?

SENATOR HARTNETT: We benefit like all places in the state.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, we know anybody can use more money if they can get it but Bellevue was the one who really felt they needed it, isn't that correct, that is why it is a Bellevue bill?

SENATOR HARTNETT: Well, Senator Withem introduced the bill. It is my priority bill, yes. Senator Withem asked me if I would carry this as my priority bill.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Members of the Legislature, what often happens is that one city, one village, one county may have a problem so they pass a bill that affects every