

state pay for the costs associated with those highways and I would remind you that the only reason for the state patrol to be out on the highways is because people are out there driving on them. Now I know there is a lot of bad roads in this state and I know there is a lot of places that haven't been brought to snuff, as Senator Warner is mentioning. As a matter of fact I've got a state highway in my home county not very far from where I live that's a gravel state highway and there is not too many of those left around. But as somebody that's out there on the road a lot, and I see a lot of the state patrolmen out there on the highways, it occurs to me that maybe through the gas taxes that I have voted for those increases by the way all the way along, have voted for the increase that we passed this year, and if there is a need for more revenues I think the mechanisms are there to provide it and I would support those mechanisms. To provide the funds to not only build the roads, but to maintain the roads and to patrol the roads, it seems to me they're all tied together and I don't look at this as a one time band-aid approach. I don't look at this as a way to get funds out of the general fund budget, because as I mentioned when this bill was on General File, we tend in this body to look at that general fund expenditure as though it's the only expenditure and I'm not blaming the Appropriations Committee or anybody else. I just say that as a general rule we and the press tend to look at that 846 million or 47 million as though that's all the funds when in actuality we're talking about 1.9 billion when you consider all the cash funds. And I think it's appropriate that this body determine what is the proper use of all of those funds including the cash funds. So as a matter of philosophy I would urge you to adopt this amendment, and if in the future we need more funds for that particular cash fund, then to increase the necessary gas taxes to provide those funds. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Beutler, please, then Senator Higgins.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I just, basically, think that Senator Warner is flat out wrong on the principle of government, just flat out wrong. It seems to me that what we ought to do to the extent that we can do it is identify the cost, identify the cost to the functions of government and to charge it to the people to the extent that it's logical and practicable to do