

pierce the gas tax which is now going across the state and you are going to pull out a bunch of it and you are going to target that for Omaha and Lincoln. Well, then we are going to call that a tax savings. What you did, you just robbed us out there, that is what that is. Not only that, but it is a worse theft than what it appears there. They came in and asked for an additional, as I understand it, 2.2 million above what is there. Now they are going to get that eventually for mass transit. They are going to get it. Once you have set the rule that it comes out of the gas tax, then it is all going to come out of there. So you nail us some more. My point is this, everybody seems when they get to the individual cuts, at least everybody outside the Appropriations Committee, and I hate to commend them because I think they...because it is a painful thing but they do it pretty much in an evenhanded fashion and we can each individually argue this way or that but they have done their cuts over the years in a pretty evenhanded fashion and that is why they all passed, almost every single one, with the exception of the babies, of course, which will eventually pass, or not pass. Anyway, so if you adopt this package, you are just falling into that pattern of catering to one particular group who says we can cut over here but we can shift over here because that helps us even though it hurts Joe over there. If you wanted to do that, the individual things, you had the real clear-cut ones, the ones they started out with at the beginning of this session, multimillion ones in Muny Court, multimillion dollar ones in state employees. Those were the places. But because they are impossible to pass, we don't do it and we go for the disguised ones. As I say, look at that, the mass transit one, you pierce that fund and then all the funding which would normally be kind of halfway evenly distributed across the state, that is going to start coming out of there. That is not fair to outside let's say the Omaha or Lincoln, the mass transit people. Additionally, you heard Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely got up and he said, you know, I am in favor of these cuts except for the University, that one on the University there. Well, sure, I am in favor of the cuts except the ones that impact me. That is why it has never worked except with the across-the-board system. You chose not to do that. Maybe you will get another chance, I don't know. But the point is, the individual ones seem to have to always use that system of, how can I get in your knickers before you get in mine. And that is what these cuts are. They are getting in somebody else's knickers.