

say, yeah, we're going to fix your road this year, and then it's deferred, deferred, deferred. Do it straight up. If you feel that in addition to the loss of federal funds and the loss of receipts because they're down below projections, that the road program should be cut further yet, then do it in the appropriation bill. There will be an A bill that will go with this bill. I assume that's legitimate. It reflects the reduction in revenue. You can cut it at whatever level that you want, as low as you want, but then the public will know that there is going to be a series of roads that for sure aren't going to be done this year, and as I have said, there will be some anyway because the revenue is down regardless of what we do on the appropriation. It's just how much you're going to reduce the one-year program, not whether. I'd urge you to vote against the amendment. It is not the route to go and the other part is, as written, I'm not sure if it's the intent, but it certainly could very well affect the variable portion. It only reflects the price of gasoline and I don't think you want to do that because that could force it up or down or it would prevent it from going down as well as prevent it from going up if it was necessary.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Vickers, you're recognized for purposes of closing. For the information of the Legislature on the new system that we have in place, on the question of the order of speakers, if you're chair button is lit, that means you're still on my list up here and I'll call upon you to speak eventually. If you're chair button is not lit, that means you're not recorded up here and you need to push it to get on the speaking order. Once you speak, then I eliminate you up here and your button should go off and if you want to speak again, you need to push the button again. So I just wanted to pass that information on to you. Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, you know I spent the last couple of weeks rounding up cattle, weaning calves, working cows and a cow is supposed to be a dumb animal and they're hard to handle and sometimes they act like they don't have any sense at all, but I'll tell you what. Watching what is going on in here, it's pretty clear to me that those cows are a hell of a lot smarter than the state legislators are. It occurs to me that we've got a number of folks in here that really, really don't want to do a whole heck of a lot of anything other than get in the road, other