

system to developing our economy. Senator Vickers talks about education. I would suggest that is equally important and should be also of concern. So, it might just be a time for us as a body, rather than to make a little shift that really doesn't help us at all, but to sit back and think about what is really important to Nebraska? What is really important to Nebraska's future? What are we going to have to do? That is one of the reasons that I have generally opposed across-the-board cuts. To do that you simply assume that every program is just as good as every other program. It doesn't really take into account the need to invest in your government and put those tax dollars that people earn and pay in the place it will do us the most good. I think the whole idea of shifting gets us away from considering that concept and that's the one we really need to be looking at. We need to make whatever decisions we make about roads money and in such a way that it is right up front and that the public and us really understand what is going on here when that movement is made. We shouldn't kid ourselves that this somehow solves any problem and, in fact, it could create some very serious future problems. So with that little summary of where we've been and what I think about it, I guess I'll sit down. Thank you.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, am against shifting just from one pocket to the other. Outstate Nebraska, I know that our economy does depend on the road system and so on and being in business, you cannot put off repairs or delay too long. However, like Senator DeCamp, I, too, spent considerable time over the weekend in trying to get input from my district and I will have to tell you, if there was any one thing that was mentioned on the list, there are two things that stuck out very plain in mine, is that we cannot simply afford four lane roads when we can get by with two lanes in this present state of economy. I sincerely feel that there are points to save in the road programs and they along must take the same cuts as everyone else and I cannot ask, when it costs millions and millions of dollars for one more mile of interstate, I cannot ask people in my district, as an example, was even suggested closing the veterans' home or our mentally retarded programs and so on. I think that we need to address our priorities and I hope that the appropriation does come through with a cut. I can see that they are no