

these just existing tax funds or will this be an increase?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, it will be existing just like it has been. It's existing.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay, so you'd just be diverting the existing tax (inaudible).

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's right, it reimburses the...yeah.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay, I appreciate that. Can you give us some idea how much we spent since, say, 1979 from gas tax funds for the purpose of building buildings and supplementing this kind of an effort? Oh, in total, about how many millions of bucks, 10 million? Maybe you don't know and I should have asked you the question earlier so you could have had the answer. I'm not trying to set you up or...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: If I can, I'll look for the figure. I've got it. I have to look, I'll answer it on my time.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay. Would you say it is roughly \$10 million a year...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It could be some more than 10 but I hate to give you an off-the-cuff figure. I don't want to be too far wrong, but I have it.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay. What I do appreciate the amendment for, I do appreciate the fact that Senator Wehrbein's amendment does in fact recognize that we should not continue forever this process of using these sacred highway funds for any other purpose except to build roads. And for that reason I'll probably support the legislation. But I did think it was important to bring it to your attention that when we discuss these sacred funds for teachers we are reminded so often it could only be used or should only be used to build roads. Somebody might have slipped in there "or for its intended purpose." But unless you were, unless you had access to the inner sanctum so to speak of these kinds of funds and how they've been used, you wouldn't know the difference. So some of us have to admit to our ignorance. I have one other important question as well. The bill under Section 9 provides that after the year...it provides for nothing after the year 2000. It does identify '89-90 as credits may be funded through the EPIC. But does that imply that after the