

opportunity and say, no, thank you, Congress, we're sick and tired of what you're doing to our states. If this is successful and we have enough states start to do this, this is a trend nationally that we can relieve ourselves of these mandates. I don't think we ought to miss this opportunity. I think it is imperative to do so. I'd be happy to answer any questions and we will transmit this to the Governor and then on to the members of Congress, and to the Congress themselves and the Federal Highway Administration and I urge you to reject the federal mandate. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. I'll now recognize Senator Wesely, followed by Senators Abboud and Withem. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Kristensen, if you'd yield to a question. I guess I'm wondering, I was following your discussion and from what I understand you're saying is we have an April 1 deadline, thus we must act today. Is that correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes, Senator Wesely, that is correct.

SENATOR WESELY: And it also requires both an overt act on the part of the Legislature and the Governor did you say?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes. The Governor must personally send a communique to the Federal Highway Administration and to Congress rejecting the mandate as well.

SENATOR WESELY: And have you...are we clear about where the Governor stands on this? Is he supporting this under the....?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: I have not spoken to him personally. I know that the administration is aware of it. They support the concept of not losing federal highway funds. I've not gotten the definitive word, yes, I am going to sign it, but I certainly have gotten the communique that they are generally supportive and obviously are going to wait to see what the Legislature does, but I can't believe that anybody would want to face the barrel of losing \$5.5 million of funds.

SENATOR WESELY: Sure. And so the point isn't that what we do here is simply take off the table the gun that is pointed at us, is that not correct? I mean, it's...