

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 27, 1999      LB 860

CLERK: LB 860, by Senator Raikes. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 20, referred to Appropriations, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments, Mr. President. (AM1323, Legislative Journal page 1629.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes to open on LB 860.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. This is my spending lid bill, and I'm pleased to see the Appropriations Committee had the wisdom to advance it to the floor. And I'll allow Senator Wehrbein to explain what a great idea this is. (Laughter)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: (Laugh) Thank you, Mr. President, members. This now has become a good bill (laughter), with the committee amendments. Senator Raikes introduced the bill originally. The term is...I'll find it..."a calculation deflator hypothetical example". (Laughter) Well, this was his proposal for a lid bill. What we have decided to do is to study this in the Fiscal Office through the summer and fall. And this bill now has become something entirely different. We needed a bill to do something, and what this bill does...I think it's concurrence with Senator Raikes that we will do the in-house study. Doesn't cost any money now; we will do it in-house to look at a market basket that he was attempting to do for Government Services. So I can be a little bit serious, Senator Raikes. He was...wanted to set up a market basket of Government Services. So the committee amendments...I don't know when the proper time; I'll discuss committee amendments. The...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Open on the committee amendments, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay. The committee amendments simply say that...because of the transponder issue...we bought two new transponders, if you recall, NETV, to continue us into the next century...we have excess space for a while, into at least the foreseeable future. This is authorization language for them to sell some of that space on the...excess space on the transponder for commercial use. And the amendment is very clear-cut: