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LB 543

\$750,000?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, yes, there was, Senator Chambers. It actually started out \$1 million each year and it was ratcheted down to \$750,000 each year.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was there any discussion as to whether this PEAP program ought to get increased funding?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, there was not a great amount of discussion.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Was there any discussion about it? You don't recall, is that not...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It's very little.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...if there was discussion, it wasn't...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It was very little.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the kind that would raise the kind of issues that I am now, in other words.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No, it's...no, that was not an issue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. We should do the right thing but we're not going to do the right thing. We should do a thing that is less bad than what is in the appropriations bill at this time. We should eliminate all of this funding. Senator Byars figured it out for us. It is over \$2,200,000, all three of these for one year, and you double that for two years. That is enough money to do something of substance in other areas of spending that are more appropriate...appropriate for the Legislature to do. Sometimes various ones of us will emphasize that we are state senators. At a time like this, we need to consider that. We should have, as our first responsibility, seeing to the interests and the business of the state. To me that means we should spend taxpayers money prudently. In the past, money has been spent improvidently. This that exists in the Appropriations Committee