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March 19, 2002      LB 1309, 1310

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Nothing from the university?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: (Inaudible) cut nothing in the scholarship. Is that what you're saying?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, I'm talking about any money that goes to public education. Nothing is being cut from public education, is that true?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: No. No, just TEEOSA, which was Education Committee. Is that what you...there...we, in our status is a \$22 million cut in TEEOSA, which is the state aid formula, in the Education Committee.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Does that mean that some money will be cut from public education?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, that's a long story but yes and no. It depends on what property tax people have...what ability people have to make that up with property tax. It's implied that it be property.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I think a point that I've been trying to make and I intend to make when we get to LB 1309 has been made. Now there's muscle behind that PEAP program and you all can say it's not the Catholics if you want to, but if Creighton and the College of Saint Mary's (sic--Mary) were not in that mix, PEAP would not be left intact in the way it is now and it would not be maintained in the way it is being maintained. But I'm going to fight that one too and I'm going to fight it every year that I'm down here. But here's the question. Senator Wehrbein, that's all I'll ask you. Thank you. Here is the question that I will ask and leave hanging in the air. Even if we were told that money taken from this tobacco program would be replaced by money from a cigarette tax increase why should we believe that when faith is being broken right here? Faith is being broken here. Now I should accept the promise of somebody in the process of making that process is breaking faith now? Native Americans were told if you sign this