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FLOOR DEBATE

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bottom of page 3, the Department of Corrections projected one time department savings in this year, right now, of \$6 million primarily from vacancy savings. Admittedly, in my mind and several of us, this may come back as a deficit in the future, but at this time, that would be an allowable \$6 million. We decided to also take that. The next one is down in...right in the middle of page 3, Administrative Services to use savings grants for fiscal year '02 was \$450,000. And the last one, it is not highlighted, but it is on page 4 toward the bottom, the Securities Act Cash Fund transfer to the General Fund. We have done that routinely over the years, Securities Fund Cash Fund and lapsed to the General Fund which amounted to, in normal times, a \$13 million revenue; in this case, 13. The Governor reduced that lapse, took that, and left it...took that back, and did not take it to allow it as revenue so it becomes a revenue loss. We restored that in our veto override, and so it becomes \$13 million to be added back to his budget. Then...so those are the...those are the ones that we are not overriding that I just enumerated. Now if you will look, to give you a perspective, look on the two sheets that I handed out. General Fund Financial Status, there's two. One of them is with the July 1, if you notice across the top, LB 1085; now we're on LB 1085 that you passed yesterday and we'll come back, perhaps tomorrow, I'm not sure of that. LB 1085, the sales tax starting July 1, read that, 33 votes. On the second one I handed out is LB 1085, sales tax, October 1, read that, 30 votes. If we start July 1, there will be additional revenue from sales tax. Drop to line 38, and there will be \$33 million above the line for a cushion, and \$46,965,000 almost \$47 million, in our Cash Reserve Fund. If we would go with October 1 sales tax, read that, 30 votes. Drop to the bottom line, we'll have 38...line 38, variance from minimum reserve of \$8 million and an ending balance of \$46 million in the cash reserve as of June 30. We've approached it a little different than the Governor did. He did not take the securities transfer, the lapse, as a cushion. But because of what we did yesterday, the cigarette tax, that money is to go into the cash reserve. And I believe that I could make a strong case, at least personally, that what we've done is...is very responsible. We've allowed for a significant cushion in our funding. It's hard to be optimistic over the next few months. Cigarette tax moves into the cash reserve fund. We