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SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. This is bound to be a difficult vote for all of us this morning. It's going to be a difficult vote for me. It has been a difficult vote each of the other four times that I've already voted for this bill, and many of you are in the same camp. This is not something we want to do. What we did yesterday was not what I wanted to do either. Yesterday we raised property taxes. Yesterday we raised property taxes. Today we're talking about raising sales and income taxes and cigarette taxes to meet our fiscal responsibility. Now I do not use the term "fiscal responsibility" lightly. There are some who think fiscal responsibility simply means cutting their way out of this kind of a problem. I don't think we can do it. To me fiscal responsibility means providing to government the resources that it needs to carry out its functions, the functions that we, as representatives of the people, have agreed are necessary. That's fiscal responsibility. Yesterday we cut programs. We know what's left. It is fiscal responsibility to fund what's left, and LB 1085, while you might think it overdoes it, as we began the discussion yesterday, does not. It's a little bit hard to read the sheet but if you look at what we call the green sheet, and somebody said, well, I haven't seen a green sheet, it's the buff sheet, isn't it? I don't know, is it? What color is this, Senator Redfield? Is it tan? Maybe it should...maybe it should be...maybe it should be the red sheet because if you look at the tan sheet, it shows that our current fiscal status is a hun...is \$96 million out of the minimum reserve. If you look at the fiscal note for LB 1085, you will see that it is projected to raise in this fiscal year roughly \$117 million. You subtract those things out and you say, well, we're way overdone. We're way overdone. We don't need that. But you also then need to subtract about \$3.5 million for the effect on the minimum reserve, and when you're all done, LB 1085, the next time you see the sheet, would indicate that we're about \$16 million over. Right? Fundamental math. That's the way things will look on Tuesday. But the fact of the matter is even that doesn't really bring us into balance based on what we know because we already know that March receipts were \$36 million less than the February forecast, which was lower than the October forecast, which was lower than last, a year ago April's forecast. We are still running behind two forecasts that were