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April 30, 2003 LB 798, 799

precipitous drop. So no one can predict the future, but we have to deal in probabilities, I think. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Seeing no further lights, Senator Wehrbein, would you wish to close on LB 798?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, thank you, Madam President. I will close. I think there's been quite a bit of discussion so I'm not going to say much, but I will say, repeat, the rationale of our committee was, after I remembered about it, reminded about it, was the fact that it was cigarette tax money, went into the Cash Reserve and so it was not so inappropriate to take a little bit out of it to continue a program that has been effective, by and large, the last two or three years. There's lots of people dedicated to making this work, and our committee felt that we ought to continue that commitment. Senator Jensen, did you have anything more you'd like to add in closing? I will turn my time over to him, and that will finish my closing, unless Senator Jensen would like some time.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein, and Senator Jensen is waiving the remainder of the time. So with that, the question is the advancement of LB 798 to E & R Initial. All in favor vote aye; all opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays on the advancement of LB 798.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: LB 798 advances. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 799 by the Appropriations Committee. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on February 28, referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments. (AM0849, Legislative Journal page 913.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized to open on LB 799.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Madam President, and I will address the bill. The amendment is the emergency clause only,