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LB 407, 540

Wehrbein and his able staff. I have never ever felt stifled or arm-twisted by anyone. I think my views are just as appropriate as anyone else's in here. With that, would Senator Beutler yield to a question or two?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, would you respond to a question?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, sir.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Senator Beutler. I want to speak specifically to the amendment that you have recommended, and what you're suggesting is an additional \$10 million cut to K-12, but you also said that if you vote yes on this amendment you've...you also, you feel, would be agreeing to an additional levy authority under LB 540. Is that accurate?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's very accurate, Senator. I would encourage nobody to vote for this unless they intend to vote for the levy increase in LB 540.

SENATOR BOURNE: And what are you anticipating? I think as we advanced LB 540, it took the levy from \$1.00 to \$1.04, and what are you advocating in LB 540, or Senator Raikes or whoever might be bringing that back to us? What will that go to, from \$1.04 to...?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I would, yes, Senator, I would yield to Senator Raikes as to the amount necessary, but it would either be \$1.05 or \$1.06 I think.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay, and what then, Senator Beutler, does this mean in terms of a percent, total percent, cut to the university? I think the Governor had recommended a 10 percent cut, which some might say is absurd, but the Appropriations Committee, after hearing extensive testimony from the university people, settled on, is it, 3 percent?