

really, you know, I think the Department is trying to play a game. They're trying to get another staff person, because they were cut. Their budget was cut and that's what they came to me when they even gave me the...when they talked about the twenty thousand dollar report to do this information. To some extent, you know, they have...it won't take a great deal more effort by the Department to do this, and the costs are not that significant. But as for the question about how will it affect the decision, Senator Murphy, as you well know, we do not have good data as to the cost of the Freeport. When we put that on in the 518 battle, you know, we put the Freeport on...it was sort of a compromise sort of a situation. We didn't know what was exempted, how much it cost, what it was worth, what was going to happen. We did that, you know, on the floor of the Legislature in a situation where you compromise and you try to satisfy people so that you can keep the steam rolling on 518 when it was done.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is...you^r time is up. Senator Cope and then Senator Nichol.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Newell.

SENATOR NEWELL: Yes, Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Senator Newell, isn't the...first I'll ask this question...for the amount of money that's involved, you said twenty thousand, the fiscal statement estimates thirty-nine thousand seven ninety-five this year, and forty-one thousand next year. Is that correct?

SENATOR NEWELL: Well, that was on the original bill, and on this...

SENATOR COPE: Do you have an updated fiscal...

SENATOR NEWELL: I...Senator Carsten, do we have an updated fiscal note? Can you ask the Committee staff if they provide an updated fiscal note on that? That was...Senator Cope, that was the first fiscal note we had, and then we wrote the bill to make it, you know, to phase it in over three years to get this information, and that substantially reduced the...

SENATOR COPE: Yes, it's the only one in the book...is the reason I was using that...

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cope, do you want to direct your question to Senator Carsten?