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LB 850

SENATOR MORRISSEY: But you folks did take that previously committed Commonwealth money and used it within your budget?

SENATOR MOORE: Well, yes, and can I use thirty seconds to explain why? Well, the argument is that if you...if we would not have done that, we would have had to make cuts of the magnitude I just mentioned. And I guess if we were talking about a growing budget like we had the last several years, particularly like two years ago when we passed LB 84, I would say maybe no need to spend the money, but when the option is do some draconian cuts, or use this money, which I'm going to argue is a slim, slim, slim chance of ever being used for its intended purposes, we ought not to make the cuts and we ought to use the money.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: Okay, thank you. I support, always have supported the reimbursement of the Commonwealth depositors. I...one of the many questions in state...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...in state government that we have not always been strong on, in my opinion, and I guess I have to balance it now with what Senator Moore says, if indeed we do this, if we can do it, we need to do it some way or another and I'm with Senator Schmit and others in looking at all the options and how we could do it. So I appreciate Senator Schmit continuing this fight. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. I would like to introduce some guests of the Legislature. We have guests of Senator Nelson. We have 50 fourth graders from Gates Elementary in Grand Island and their teachers. And they're in the south balcony. Would you folks please stand and be welcomed by the Legislature. Thank you for being with us. The next speaker is Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: I would call the question.

SPEAKER BAACK: Do I see five hands? I do. We will now vote on ceasing debate. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? We are voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.