

SENATOR LINDSAY PRESIDING

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Didn't hear your question.

SENATOR BROMM: No, I haven't...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Oh.

SENATOR BROMM: ...I'm just going to ask it. As Chairman of the Appropriations Committee and also being involved in this ethanol legislation pretty significantly, can you tell me whose idea or why we have this threshold out there where we jump to \$13 million instead of stretching this funding out perhaps and going a little heavier on the front end...

SENATOR LINDSAY: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...so we have an even-Steven appropriation arrangement here? Is there an answer that you can give us in that regard?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I can't exactly and Senator McKenzie may want to enlighten...expand on it. I was not part of that particular amount. My guess is that this was drafted probably 30 days ago when there was even more uncertainty than there is now about the amount of the budget and that by putting in a fairly small amount, in this case 2 million each year, it would more likely fit into this year's budget then and then worry about some of that in the outlying years. Now, I will tell you the way the budget looks today we're just now getting into a new status. We are not too bad off on the budget as it looks today. There's still some unknowns out there, especially Medicaid, and you all will get this information sometime this week as the Appropriations Committee now is just starting to work on...

SENATOR LINDSAY: Time.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator McKenzie. Senator McKenzie waives off. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Chairman, members of the body, I'm going