

that being our understanding, what is the purpose of this bill? In view of the fact that it's there for only this short period of time, what is being looked at that makes this bill even make sense?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Well, here again I think you have to start with the premise that this is a supplement to the other activities, first of all. Secondly, I think you have to go under the premise that they're not going to let these dollars lapse. And that's based upon the inquiries and the number of projects that they've been working on, I believe that the department, the Governor and this commission will use these funds in the fiscal years that they are appropriated for.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Oh, so...

SENATOR MAURSTAD: I see it highly unlikely that there would be dollars...

SENATOR CROSBY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: ...if no more dollars were appropriated after this fiscal...these two-year...this two-year period, that the dollars would still be available on December 31, 1999.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, so then...and that's kind of the feeling I had, because if people are paying it back it's going to be lent out again. So this is just kind of an arbitrary date set out there at some point to bring all of this to a conclusion, more or less.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Well the intent was to sunset it so the whole thing could be revisited. I mean that was something that's been brought up on the floor in other issues. So I mean the date is so that this whole issue is revisited at that time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Bernard-Stevens, on the Hall amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. Senator Chambers, I reminded myself when I used to