

over the two-year period. And the bottom line is where are you going to make your priority decisions because here's what happens on Final Reading. We move things to Select File and then we'll say, well, the budget will go ahead of everything and we'll pass the budget first and see if there is any monies left over. Then you know what is going to happen? What's going to happen if people will say, wait a minute. There's money to do these things. There's two things we can do, (a) the Appropriations Committee put \$20 million in the Cash Reserve Fund. They don't need to put that in the Cash Reserve Fund, that's just for a rainy day, we can tap some of that now. Well in fact, we can use that to help pay for ethanol if we want. Or probably what will happen, we'll keep the \$20 million there, we'll give it to the Governor and the Governor then will make those tough decisions for us. He will keep his priorities and all of our priorities will not be necessarily kept which I don't blame him. I'd do that too if I were the Governor. That's exactly what I would do, but we once again will delegate our authority and give it away. So I'm going to be voting no, not because I don't agree with the bill, in fact I like the bill, but we can't afford the bill and I also start looking at our future in the Legislature. We know at the federal level we're going to have fewer dollars and what this Legislature is doing is we're putting even more reliance on federal dollars. We're even spending General Fund dollars on consultants so that we can maximize federal dollars and those federal dollars will dry up as the government begins to balance its budget at the federal level and they will make substantial cuts and we will have to make substantial changes. And for us to take the position now that all of this spending is going to be just fine is crazy, it's ludicrous, we can't do it. And those of you that support ethanol, this is a warning shot, you may not have the votes on ethanol on Final Reading if there isn't dollars there to support it. Now we're either going to have to make a tough decision here or we'll have to go to LB 425, Senator Engel's bill that's a new program of \$6 million and say no there. We'll have to go maybe to the throwback rule or say no there. Somewhere you're going to have to say no and instead of waiting till Final Reading when it won't happen, you should start making those priority decisions now. Is this \$6 million, \$7 million, or \$6 million I guess revenue loss, is that...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...as important than some of the area