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LB 311

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...if the state gets it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: They would have to follow in the guidelines upon which the money was being requested.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But you must be telling us, by virtue of the way the committee built it into the state budget, that they're able, even with federal guidelines controlling the programs from which this money comes, the state is able to spend that money in a way other than required by the federal guidelines. Is that true?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, the money will be spent, the money will be spent, yes, and this is simply getting...the money will be spent regardless of where...where the funds because it's an entitlement and this money will be coming back to reimburse, in a sense, if we've already spent it, the General Fund.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If somebody has not been attentive and a mistake has been made with reference to how this money that comes from the federal government can be spent and we have a situation where money must go back to the federal government, before we talk about what Maximus has said in terms of making the state somewhat whole, we would have a situation where that money, any money spent in that manner, would carry interest rates also, whatever the amount of money it would be. Is that correct?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Oh, I suppose that could be true if that was...you mean if we have to pay some back, is that what...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...you said?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Uh-huh.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now did Maximus say that...is there ever an instance that you know of where there is a penalty attached to inappropriate expenditure of federal money by a