

February 26, 1996 LB 1248

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I'm jumping out of the frying pan into the fire here, Senator Chambers, but it occurs to me we are doing some loans in some form. I don't know how they fit with what our definition we are doing here. We are doing wastewater treatment, water quality issues, soil conser...not loans in soil conservation, I guess, those are grants, but the wastewater program, municipal wastewater is a loan. I'd have to think through where the...where the source of those funds are, but we're...we're doing...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...it in the DED through the grant process.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: How long has those loans been available, or how long...for how long a period of time have these loans actually been granted or during what period of time...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: How long has this been going on?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, how long has it been going on?.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It has been going on several years.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Has there ever been a question about them or a challenge to their constitutionality?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I'm not an expert on that. I don't know of any but...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...that's off the top of my head, you understand.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, and I appreciate that. It's a question that I haven't had time to evaluate or analyze myself, but I do have a question, and since we're creating a new program, which I object to and disagree with anyway, if there are possible constitutional infirmities, even if prior programs have been allowed to go forth unchallenged, I would not want to perpetuate those. Since I'm not in a position, Senator Vrtiska, to say that the constitution is violated by this,...