

reports ask essentially two questions. Do we have a minimum reserve? And most people recommend a 5 percent annual reserve; we have a 3 percent biennial reserve, so we actually are better in terms of our minimum reserve. And then the second question that they ask is, do you have a Cash Reserve Fund and what is the balance? Stability in these numbers indicate fiscal health for the state. And businesses look at this when they are locating here, other economic development activities look at these numbers, and we get rated by various journals based on the stability of these numbers. Without the proposed change from my amendment we will have gone from \$20 million in the Cash Reserve Fund to zero. These reports that I indicated that are made to these journals are made fiscal year-end. And even though our budget shows \$17 million in reduction to revenues, that does not correspondingly show up in our Cash Reserve Fund to be reported. So we have compromised the appearance of fiscal health. I believe it is responsible to right now replenish the Cash Reserve Fund. I really see no reason not to do it now. This amendment was signed by most of the members of the Appropriations Committee. We built the money into the budget last year, and now we're just responding to the depletion of the Cash Reserve Fund and acting responsibly by transferring the \$14 million plus the \$3.9 million already adopted in this budget, as an amendment to this budget, to the Cash Reserve Fund for a total of \$18,189,565 as of June, '95, and then we will transfer the \$3 million that was represented in the amendment to 742A in June of '97, so we would have a balance of \$21,221,898 in June of '97. Now I know that these are a lot of numbers and I'd be glad to answer any questions that you have about this. It's really a matter, I believe, of being responsible to replenish the Cash Reserve Fund. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Madam President, and members of the body. Senator Brown, I think this is a good thing to do (laugh), but I guess I'm amazed. What we are really doing is saying that we are going to shift funds a year earlier, from June of '97 to June of '96. Is that what it boils down to?

SENATOR BROWN: Correct.

SENATOR PIRSCH: And you also talked about a Maximus revenue shortfall. Maximus is not...not giving us what they had