

Appropriations Committee, is it necessary to put something in figure-wise on paper into that savings account, or can we go the next few months till we're back in January and not, on paper, put anything in that savings account? Since this isn't really money that we'd be putting in there anyway, it's just money that we might get from Maximus (inaudible)?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, I'm supporting this because I believe putting it there shows others in the world that we are trying to have a responsible budget, the money is put away in a savings account rather than a checking account. I guess we can argue all day philosophically if you carry a large balance in your checking account, or do you put some away for a rainy day. I mean that's the way I look at in a very simplified form. And this...

SENATOR WITEK: Well, why don't we get \$14 million of real dollars into the savings account?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, we could cut our spending amount and do that, if you so desire, yes.

SENATOR WITEK: Okay. Thank you, Senator. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR FIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body. Forgive me, I have to change my mind about supporting this amendment. I called it smoke and mirrors, but it's even worse than I first thought. It's kind of like I had...I have \$2,000 in my savings account but I'm expecting \$17,000 more next year, so in my little chart I'm going to put that \$17,000 shifted over to my savings account right now because I'm sure that I'll get it in the next year. And I...I think that's nonsense. And I can't imagine why we need to do this. And I haven't been shown where there is a need to do it, except to, as Senator Wehrbein says, show the world that we have a cash reserve? We don't, we don't, pure and simple. And it again shows that to put our hopes and dreams in Maximus to get all of this money at a percentage, I might add, of federal funds, which again I add is our tax dollars again in the federal level; and to say that this will in some way help us in the state of Nebraska, it's more than smoke and mirrors, it is...it is I think deception and I will not support the amendment.