

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Brown, followed by Senators Lynch, Wehrbein, and Witek.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the body, the rest of the rest of the story is... (laugh) do we want to be able to spend this money more easily? I mean that's what's being argued about here. We seem to be afraid of having two votes to spend the money. We are going to have the same options. We're going to have the same control that we have right now, it's just going to take two votes rather than one. But in the meantime we have done the responsible thing as we did by setting this money aside. I mean the whole argument about Maximus is a red herring. The only money that we really have is the cash balance that we start out the year and the receipts that we've already received, that's the only real money that we have. A lot of it is in estimated receipts, and there is good reason to believe in most of it coming in. But, Senator Wehrbein, I'd like to ask you a question.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR BROWN: Do we have this \$14 million available in our General Fund to be transferred to the Cash Reserve Fund?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, in our cash flow basis we do, yes.

SENATOR BROWN: Will it disrupt the cash flow?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: We don't anticipate that it will based on present projections, no.

SENATOR BROWN: And so the concern is that we're talking about Maximus being funny money, but it's not really anymore funny than any of our receipts that might not come in as we predict them, and yet we have been very conservative in the way that we have dealt with Maximus.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, are you asking me?

SENATOR BROWN: Yes.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.