

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

May 21, 1999

LB 881

SENATOR BEUTLER: Now I have three questions. First of all, the entire sentence is intent.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So it has no...it requires nothing of us, is that not accurate?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: That's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Insofar as one may think that there is some meaning to that sentence, let me ask you, what is...what's the meaning of putting three years in there, 2001, 2002, and 2003? Does that mean that beyond those years we are not putting any more money into this fund?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Because it is only intent language, Senator Beutler, it is not binding on a future Legislature. If they change their intent, they'll put monies into the fund. The operative language, the actual fund language is not repealed or sunsetted as of the year 2003, so the mechanism is there and available for use at whatever time the Legislature appropriates money to the fund.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so the bill doesn't end in the year 2003. The funds that we create go on. The Appropriations Committee would be expected to look every year in ad infinitum, until we changed the law, at least, at available revenues and decide whether to put money into this fund or not. Is that what's intended?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Now let me ask you, available excess revenues, the direction is to look at available excess revenues.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But what, Senator, are available excess revenues?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, I think that excess revenues are