

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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back to debating the advancement of the bill. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President...or Mr. Speaker, excuse me, members of the body, without belaboring a point, there are two things that happened fiscally as a result...if this bill passes. One, there is a transfer of funds, as indicated by Senator Crosby. If you look at the fiscal note, there's an appropriation of \$425,881 General Fund, \$93,611 Cash, and \$2,831...then there's a federal fund transfer as well. I'm sorry, I'm not able to read the number. Those transfers, as I take it, would indeed occur, but there is a fiscal cost. There is a fiscal cost above and beyond the transfers. And while the fiscal note says it's \$509,975, there may be a little bit of uncertainty about that. It can range all the way from a hundred to six hundred thousand, as I understand it, after completing a discussion with the analyst from the Fiscal Office. Now, whether or not that makes any difference to you or not I don't know, but I think it is appropriate that as you do vote on this bill that you have a clear understanding, or at least a clearer understanding, I hope, of what the potential fiscal impact is. This is not a cheap bill. This is not a bill without a cost and I hope that...at least my answer is that the cost is not worth it.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Beutler, on advancement of LB 352.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I think the whole matter is in need of some additional information on the financial side, because the conflicting information that I have at this point indicates, on the one hand, what Senator Wickersham has conveyed to you and, on the other hand, the fact that the indirect cost needed to match federal funds can be done in roughly the same manner as it is currently done and that there would not be a significant loss of federal funds, but that may be a debate that you will want to hear, hopefully, on Select File. There are 25...at least 25 of these commissions in other states. It is difficult for me to believe that 25 other states have set up commissions that would be losing federal funds. I