

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

February 4, 2003 LB 126

SENATOR CUDABACK: Yeah. They could not charge over that, obviously, because somebody would have taken them to, you know, task for it.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members, I urge that we move with caution. And I'm not out...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR SMITH: ...to fight this bill. As I said, I'm not out to fight this bill. But I think we need to move with caution, so that...when we talk about cuts that are inevitable, that have been inevitable for quite a while, it seems to only apply to General Fund. And I think we need to move with caution and make sure that there is either a plan not to go to the ceiling right away, or an overall plan so that we can treat agencies fairly and consistently, as much as possible. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Stuthman, followed by Senators Vrtiska, Cudaback, and Janssen. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Madam Chair and members of the body, I am also very much concerned about the amount of increase that is imposed on this. Realistically, it comes back down to, who is going to pay this? In my opinion, it's going to be individuals, it's going to be local taxpayers. When this increase is made, it will all come back to...it's going to be passed on until the last person. And I would be one of those last people, because if I put up a building or have any construction, my electrical bill is going to be added onto that. I'm not against the bill in its entirety. But I'm in...I'm not in favor of that much of an increase. If there would be an increase at a smaller amount on different years or anything like that, I could possibly support it. But a large amount right off the bat is really going to impact the people that we do not want to impact the most, and those are the individuals, the one that can't pass it on. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Vrtiska, you are