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degree.

SENATOR BEUTLER: They already have given us money for that.

SENATOR VRTISKA: To a certain degree, yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So, to the extent that this money is retained in the general unemployment fund, it would be either for the purpose of reducing employer rates or building some kind of a reserve in anticipation of additional payments, and then trying to keep rates steady or stable? Would that be an accurate way of looking at it?

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, I understand the purpose of putting the money, and I guess it was something we talked about. The purpose of the money is to keep the fund solvent so that, in fact, there's the money to pay out. As more people are unemployed or more people apply for unemployment compensation, there will be money there. And this is merely an assurance, by putting that money into that trust fund, that the fund will remain solvent.

SENATOR BEUTLER: That the fund would remain solvent. How much money is in that trust fund right now, more or less?

SENATOR VRTISKA: I don't have those...we talk...just a minute, we've talked about that. I don't have the exact figure, but it's over \$100 million.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so putting another \$40 million in it increases it by roughly 40 percent or so.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, it's actually about \$30 million. We're taking about \$7 million out for the upgrade on the system. At the end of 2002, it was \$102 million, but that was the end of 2002, and we've had an increase in the payout during this time also.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So 102 plus 48, minus 8, is another 40, a hundred and...it would be up to about 142 or in that neighborhood?