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FLOOR DEBATE

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by policy makers. And there are some premises therein that I think are just fundamentally flawed. They're just wrong, and they can be proven wrong. But that's another debate. So there are those of us who don't want to bring all the information the applicants file from the executive branch over to the legislative branch to be applied in models that we don't think work. That's one. Two, if you notice, the penalty for bringing all that information from the executive branch to the legislative branch is...the penalty for disclosing any of it is on the input, that which comes over. There's not a penalty for the output from the Legislative Fiscal Office. And we know it's going to be the model, the results of the models, but we don't know what else. And there are no penalties for the outputs from the Legislative Fiscal Office disclosing anything. And this might cause you some concern. It does me. We all of a sudden want to do project by project analysis of policy in the Legislative Fiscal Office, and we want to do it county by county. I think there's a chance that this information won't be too anonymous pretty soon. Are you with me? We're going to...all of a sudden, we, as a matter of policy, are going to start doing the micromanagement of analyzing every project. I'm sorry, I don't think that's the province of policy makers. We're going to mini-micromanage the data, project by project and county by county. We're going to penalize any Legislative Fiscal Office employee who discloses that information which is provided to the Legislative Fiscal Office. But we don't say anything in all this legislation about what we're going to do about the data outputs, about the work that is then done on the project by project, county by county basis. Apparently, there's no limitation on that. I'm trying to signal here that maybe a little more specificity and thought and...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...conversation can result in achieving legitimate public policy analysis objectives. But trucking everything over from one branch to the other, putting a criminal penalty on it, and saying, do with it whatever you want to do on a project by project and county by county basis, and we'll assume in your good judgment you'll keep it anonymous, in a state like this where we can count the projects and we know the