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LB 759

SENATOR RAIKES: So then you have no backup, or as Senator Wehrbein described it,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Slush.

SENATOR RAIKES: ...a slush fund. You have no reserve amount to draw on. You simply have to proceed immediately to cutting your spending plans. So the question is, what's the appropriate balance? What is...with a \$2.6 billion annual expenditure, what is an appropriate amount of money to be targeted to the Cash Reserve? And, Senator, if you know the answer to that, I'll yield you the rest of my time. Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, there are no further lights on. Did you wish to speak or close?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I'm going to speak, in case I need to engage in a discussion, and if not then I can go...I could always waive closing. Senator Raikes, let me tell you why I offered this. No amendment that I've offered has been adopted. I know that no amendment I offer is going to be adopted. The only thing I can hope for is what I stated at the beginning: focus our attention on what it is we're doing; discuss these issues because they're going to come back again as we get to the appropriations bill. Your getting involved caused the body to become very quiet. They listened to what you asked, and they listen to the issue that was being discussed, and I think it is a very important issue. But if I brought it up, they're not going to pay attention to me, Senator Raikes. But when Senator Raikes speaks, that's like E.F. Hutton in the old commercials. They listen. Even if they don't follow and understand everything, they know that something important is being said, if they could just understand it all. These amendments that I've offered will be subsumed, to use that term of the law, in Senator Quandahl's amendment, and I'm going to discuss his amendment too. You don't get rid of me that quickly or that easily. All of these earmarked items should be stricken. That doesn't mean they will remain stricken. The bill may not even pass, and if the bill does not pass, whatever was done through the bill will be as though it never was. But if the bill does appear it's going to