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FLOOR DEBATE

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upon assuming 6.3 and 6.5 percent growth in revenue. Isn't that correct?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Yes.      I didn't bring up my sheet from Friday's meeting, but that sounds right.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      And 6.3 and 6.5 does in fact exceed what is our historical growth rate, which is more like 5.4 on average. Is that right?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Yes.      Do you...are you leading me as an attorney or are you...(laugh)

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      (Laugh)      No, I'm leading you as a citizen legislator.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Well, the point is, if the first two year...you take a five-year scenario. The first two years are low. The last...let's say the first three years are low, last two years are higher. If you use a five-year average, the three...in theory, the last two should have a higher rate of growth than the first three in order to hit your average for the five years, so.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      But nevertheless, we're making assumptions that are in excess of that which we have...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Yes, that's true.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      ...previously experienced. Is that correct?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Yes.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      And to the extent that we do not meet or exceed that which we are assuming, then the \$800 million figure, from which we subtract the \$360, grows or gets larger. The deficit gets larger, correct?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN:      Yes.

SENATOR BRASHEAR:      So we need to be aware of that. Now if I can