

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

May 1, 2003

LB 46

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: As it stands now, these fees are going to start to be collected July, July of '03, and there's no programs set up. There's nothing for this money to go to until the Community Corrections Council is in line, meeting, and setting up guidelines, procedures, and promulgating rules and regulations, I would suspect. So I guess the...again, I'm not trying to hold up the process here either, Senator Brashear. But when Senator Wehrbein mentioned about the possibility and potential of rather larger cash balances next session, I think that's a very real possibility and potential, that we will have rather large cash balances in these funds. And I'll have a problem with going in and taking these funds. And I think part of the reason why is because we do not have the infrastructure mechanisms up now. That will come later. The fees will start to be collected July, here in a couple of months. But the program setup and program guidelines and promulgation of rules and setting up the bureaucracy, if you will, the new bureaucracy we're going to have for this program, is going to take a rather long time, I suspect. And I suspect there will be cash balances. And I am...I have a lot of concern about what might occur next session. Thank you. And I'll yield the rest of my time to Senator Brashear, if he cares to have it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Brashear, you've got two minutes if you wish.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, thank you, members of the body. Senator Synowiecki, thank you. I don't even have an inclination to want to dispute with you, and I'm not inclined to. And I think you will be watching this, and others will be watching it, and I'm glad. And there will be attention as to what we do with these, whether we use these...retain these and use these for the benefit of those who pay them, or whether they are appropriated by your Appropriations Committee for some other purpose. And we'll stand here and discuss that. I would like to point out that there's no application of the fees provided in LB 46 retroactively. You can't do that legally. So that to the extent it modifies anybody's thinking, fees will only be prospectively applied from and after July 1, when they legally can be. So the buildup may not be as accelerated as everyone