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LB 407

SENATOR CUDABACK: About two minutes have elapsed.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Okay. Thank you, Mr. President. Members, let me continue to go through and kind of give you the rationale behind what is before you. And if you follow with the Excel spreadsheet, you can see pretty easily where the numbers came from in the middle column of that page. In the areas where I selected the numbers from the Governor's preliminary recommendation, those show up under the fiscal year for each area, whether it's operations or the total. In the areas where I selected the Appropriations Committee, those show up as well, either under operations or total. And as you go through the rest of the proposal, you'll see some that are called "other." And those are generally areas where I took the Appropriations Committee's number and made reductions for different areas. I think it's also important to point out that I have no illusions that AM1763 is perfect or that it doesn't have anything in it that might give people heartburn, or that it might have concerns that might be addressed by members of the Legislature. In fact, I would like to know what they are. I would like to know whether or not what I have proposed is along the lines of what I've heard people speak on the floor. And that is, is that education is important, that public safety is important, that we need to do our best to protect those who are the neediest, that we need to make sure that we are appropriating the dollars to defend the state, and that at the end of the day we need to also make sure that under the constitutional obligations that there is funding for those programs. I would also like to comment briefly on what Senator Quandahl brought up. I have a list of all the contributions of all members of the Legislature that helped me arrive at this amendment. And I can go through. I mean, there's probably ten bills that the Appropriations Committee has presented to us. There's at least...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR ERDMAN: ...two or three bills that the Education Committee has presented to us. There's at least four bills that the Health Committee has presented, three bills the Judiciary Committee has presented. Even Senator Stuhr and the Retirement