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LB 407, 759

Health and Human Services, that kicks the counties again for property tax relief, and I think this... I think the scholarship number winds up being a funny money number and then also takes \$24 million from the university. I don't think we're going to do that. I believe in the package that we have putting together in LB 759, but if not, the place I retreat to? About 300 million bucks, and I'd go after that. I believe in that. I don't believe in this. I'll be voting against it. These are serious service cuts at the waterline of the state budget. This is not getting administrators who are looking to go off to do travel programs and come back.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: This is at the baseline of the state budget.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Quandahl, followed by Senator Friend, Stuhr, Redfield, Combs, and others. Senator Quandahl.

SENATOR QUANDAHL: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members of the body, we started off today talking about trying to come up with the best ideas for balancing the budget and what are those best ideas. Senator Erdman said that he wanted to take the best ideas of the Appropriations Committee, the best ideas from the Governor's budget, the best ideas from education and other places and come up with a plan, and that's what I believe he tried to do with the amendment that's before us right now. But sometimes the best ideas come not only from ourselves but also from some other states, and what has not really been talked about, I know Senator Redfield talked about it, it seems like a couple of weeks ago, but what's going on in some other states. I am aware that some other states have required nonessential state employees to take a day off a month without pay. We haven't talked about that. I am aware of other states, particularly Kansas, that has instituted a tax amnesty day where you can come clean, pay your back taxes that you haven't paid, and they put a fiscal note on that, I understand, of \$22 million. A tax amnesty day, we haven't talked about that. We haven't talked seriously about some of the other cuts that are included on Senator Erdman's sheet that would come up with