

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

May 13, 2003

LB 407

what we've done, if that's the case, we've estimated our situation to be \$11 million better than it really is. Is that correct?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yes, that would be true. But I wouldn't think that we would be adopting something unless we intended to go through with it.

SENATOR RAIKES: Well...and that's a good point, Senator. But if you really intended to go through with it, well, there's nothing that holds the gun to your head, though, is there? That's a poor analogy in this context. I'm sorry, but...

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: But Senator Tyson's bill didn't pass so far, so we feel relatively safe. (Laughter)

SENATOR RAIKES: Well...and thank you, Senator Pederson. My concern with all of this is simply that, you know, I hope I'm a better person next year than what I am this year. And if that's the case, I'll have the strength to carry through on my commitments. But if I am a better person next year, then maybe I'll want credit for doing what I did next year. I'm not going to take some credit this year, fiscally, for what I'm not going to do this year, for what I don't have the strength to put in place this year. So the point is, I'm concerned about this. This is a way, in effect, of cheating on getting to the bottom line, as I see it. Maybe I'm wrong, but...well, Senator Schimek made the point. Why don't we throw in Peru State; why don't we throw in the Norfolk Regional Center? If we come up with enough of those things, maybe we could get the whole \$353 million wiped out without really doing anything, only promising to do something next year? That's the concern. That's the concern.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR RAIKES: So if some of you would like to address that, I'd be more than happy to listen. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Senator Schimek, followed by Senators Mines, Smith and others.