

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

May 14, 2003

LB 407

on. I hope we can reconsider the last amendment to make sure that it is Cash Funds instead of General Funds and proceed. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Senator, I now have the reconsider. I don't know if you wanted to treat that...Mr. President, Senator Smith would move to reconsider FA1360 as an amendment to AM1884.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Did you wish to take that up, Senator Smith? Recognized to open on that motion to reconsider the vote taken.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. A lot of folks were out of the Chamber and didn't understand what the amendment was. The amendment simply clarifies which fund it comes out of. It's Cash Fund and not General Fund. And there was originally a drafting error and so, obviously, we want this to come out of the Cash Fund because the money is there, as opposed to the General Fund. And I would urge the reconsideration of FA1360. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the closing...I mean the opening, excuse me, and there is a light on. Senator Beutler, do you wish to address the motion to reconsider?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, we are spending a lot of time on this issue apparently, but I think there are two issues here. One is the issue of fairness and usually the issue of fairness starts with a process whereby in committee you have a public hearing and you get all sides of something, or at least on a matter like this you come to the Appropriations Committee and ask for a hearing and make a presentation and there's an opportunity for pros and cons and dialogue and some extended questioning. And if you need more information you're able to get more information. Unless I wasn't at the Appropriations Committee meeting, there was no such hearing or request for a hearing before the Appropriations Committee, so who is to know if what the bare facts that we're discussing today will lead to a fair conclusion at this moment in time or not? I think some more extended discussion is needed