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LB 407

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, I voted against this motion and it was the wrong thing to do on this part of the motion because I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to make their amendments correct and in the form that they want them. And so from the standpoint of the technical amendment that we're talking about right now, it's probably fine to vote for it. I will be most definitely voting against the underlying amendment because I think we...we talked a little bit yesterday about the importance of the work of the committees in developing plans and having whatever the rationale is for those plans. Whether it's General Fund money or Cash Fund money, this money has been devoted to a certain purpose and our Health Committee has spent a lot of time putting together what that plan is in the best interests of the entire state. Now, I think that there's some very compelling, there's some very compelling information about the numbers of indigent that are being served and needs not only in the Panhandle but in some other of the community health centers, and I would certainly hope that the Health Committee is taking those things into account as they're looking at the structures of their planning process. But whether it's Cash Fund or General Fund, it is still...this is something that should have been dealt with as a part of the plan for our tobacco settlement dollars, and I don't think that it's the kind of thing that we do at this stage of the game without the direction of the Health Committee about how it fits into the rest of the plan. And so I will vote with Senator Smith so that he can get his amendment in the form that he wants it, but then I'll vote against the amendment, the underlying amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Thompson, on the reconsideration motion.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you. I'm just having passed out, and this is something that Jeff Santema put together just for your information and I...as soon as I...if we get back to the other one, I'll pass the other out. It's just to tell...show you the minority population around the state and these are the statistics that Senator Jensen referred to. I am more than willing to work with Senator Smith to try to figure out how to