

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 407

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. AM1854 has been adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schimek has AM1834 but, Senator, I have a note you'd like to withdraw.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That is correct. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Schrock would move to amend, AM1912. (Legislative Journal page 1809.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, to open on your amendment, AM1912.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this amendment is straightforward. It puts \$6.5 million back into higher education, \$3.25 million each year. Now this morning we cut \$16 million in state aid to K-12 education, but we gave them another point in their levy, so no damage done. I mean, damage if you're a property tax payer, but the schools getting it hurt, and I like that. I don't want to hurt our K-12 education any more than we already have. But we cut \$13 million from higher education and they don't have the property taxpayer to go to, so they're going to have to eat that cut. And those cuts are going to be painful. And I was...I have an ulterior motive here because I got hurt by the cuts last year and I would like to see something done to rectify the problem in my legislative district. And I don't think the university is spending enough on agriculture research, and the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources I think is probably underfunded. Now we're not going to correct that this year with \$6.5 million funding, but at least it might give us a little daylight and I would like to see that happen. The cuts are painful. I think most of you know that. Now where is the money going to come from? I can tell you that I am going to vote for a \$6 million transfer out of the state Highway Trust Fund, and I'm going to tell you...and I'm passing out a sheet. Nobody knows how much money they're going to get next year or the year