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LB 407

SENATOR MAXWELL: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm caught a little by surprise. I didn't expect to be up again so soon. I just wanted to say, Senator Kruse, I certainly meant no offense to you. I will not quarrel with you on what your personal position is, but you've been one of the most forthright people in the discussion inside here and in the public at large about taxes and how they play off of each other. But I'll say this. I think if you jumped on a computer and did a search and searched for two terms, "temporary," in the same story, in the same sentence with "LB 1085" in World-Herald files or Lincoln Journal Star files, I'd wager you'd get more than a hundred hits. There's no question that the way this was sold was...the way LB 1085 was sold was that it was a temporary measure, it was a stopgap, it was to get us through that tough time until we can put our house in order the next year. That's all I have right now. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Maxwell. There are no further lights on. Senator Wehrbein, did you wish to close on the advancement of LB 407?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body. Very briefly, I appreciate...

SENATOR CUDABACK: You're recognized to do so.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you. I appreciate the attention given to this. Obviously, we've put quite a bit of time in'o it and we worked hard on it this morning. I hope that we've listened to what most of you, if not all, have had to say on this, and I hope you understand that you...we all cannot have a perfect world with 49 people trying to come down to 25 or 30 or 33 votes. This will need the E clause at the end on Final Reading. But I just...I guess I won't make too long a statement, but I just wanted to remind you of one thing, for those that are looking at cuts and the structure that we're facing, this is a continuing, ongoing problem. But I reminded you the other day that we've increased our budget this year, over the two years, \$161 million and, of that, 204, 204 goes to Medicaid and care to the needy. I don't know how long we can continue to do that, is