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LB 408

\$33 million back into the General Fund. I oppose the amendment, and I hope that you will...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SPEAKER BROMM: ...give it great thought before you would consider supporting such an idea.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Jones, followed by Senator Louden and others.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, I want to stand up and oppose this amendment. And I can probably give you several reasons why. But I guess it's already brought out that none of this is General Fund money. And we can raise and lower our sales tax on gas to do the roadwork that we need to do. And you know, it's really funny. We've already given last year, you might say, \$24 million to the Cash Fund that was supposed to be in the Department of Roads, and another \$22 million this year. And after the special session last year, I went back home when that half-cent sales tax that we increased. And the motor vehicle sales tax, go in the courthouse, that half-cent we voted here to put that in the Cash Reserve. And now we're changing that and putting that in the General Fund. But last year, I got home and everybody said, well, how come you took that money away from the Highway Trust money? And I had to explain to them that that part of it was something that they hadn't had before, but that was supposed to go to them for road projects. And it was hard to explain to them, because I've got a road in my area that's got hundreds and hundreds of trucks going over it every day. And they wonder, why? Because there's a feedlot of 100,000 head, and they're taking them to market and bringing new ones in all the time. So besides all the grain and everything else...and it's a real economic development, because we got to have the grain there and everything, and we got to have the projects there, because they are a big economic...having the livestock there. And a lot of people realize that. But one thing that we want to bring out in this too, this fund goes down really low. And I think Senator Baker already brought that fact out. It ranges from \$120 million and gets clear down to as low as \$3 million sometimes. And the reason for that is, a lot of