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FLOOR DEBATE

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input, statistical data that we can compare and contrast with from other jurisdictions. It's the same estimating process with all the same inputs that we utilize to arrive at any other number as a part of the budgetary process. And, clearly, you're right. I mean there is no guarantee, but it's just simply everybody's best use of available data.

SENATOR SMITH: Is there a built-in factor for cheaters?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: I don't know that, but I will pursue an answer. I assume that a...there is a fraud factor factored in.

SENATOR SMITH: Because...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: And noncollection and those kinds of things.

SENATOR SMITH: It's a very real thing when I've observed at the municipal level where city governments attempt to require permits for roofing companies on the local level because there are a lot of crooks out there. And we're not going to get the money from the crooks but we're going to penalize the law-abiding ones because all of a sudden they become less competitive when you tack on basically 7 percent to their bottom line.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Crooks always, in their view, have an advantage.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: What we hope to do with compliance and process and procedure is to make them comply and penalize them when they've wronged us.

SENATOR SMITH: And what would the penalty be?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: The penalty that's specified here, and I'm referring to one thing. The penalty that Senator Beutler just directed my attention to is up to ten times the tax due. That's already a part of our tax code.