

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 20, 2003

LB 407

they're probably going to be the first ones released, because they drive the correctional budget. We need to have a really good plan in place. And I know, with this way we'll have a year to do it, and that's good. That's a good part of it. But my protest is in the fact that we did what we did on the spur of the moment, and I don't like that kind of thing happening on the legislative floor. So thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President. I was not going to say anything, but since it's opened up a little bit, I just wanted to remind the body, we have to strike the balance and I...this is the best balance at this point that I think that we can strike. And I hope that you'll consider it that as you vote. And I hope you take into account that if we do it again, whether you'll be better off in your individual issues that you're concerned about, better off, or whether you'll be as well off in terms of the impact on property taxes, the impact on tuition, the impact on the sources of revenue that we may have to go, or where those cuts were going to be if that's what you want, additional cuts. Can we strike a better balance spending two weeks, three weeks, four weeks in special session the rest of this summer? Because that's what legislation is about, is striking that balance. And we worked hard at these last few weeks, all of us, Revenue Committee, trying to strike that balance and find where 30-33 can come together and agree. That's always a difficult subject. But will it be any easier over the next month or six weeks if we have to try again? And that's the only thing that I would offer you. I will say, in terms of the healthcare for the prisoners, there has been an agreement reached this last week on the health insurance...or, it's a pool, as I understand it, that will save us some money. And I'm looking forward to having some improvements in that area. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Chambers, there are no further lights. Would you wish to close on your motion?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. For Senator