

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

May 28, 2003

LB 285A

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Thank you, Senator Byars. Thank you, Senator Jensen. Okay, here's where we are at. We eliminated one program to the tune of \$6 million over the biennium. Senator...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...Landis is advocating that we put back \$800,000 over the biennium to main...and Senator Jensen said that maintains the minimum staffing. And yet the CDC recommends we should spend at least \$17 million on this program that now we're only spending \$800,000 on. Senator Jensen says that it'll maintain the minimum staffing and yet we don't know how many staff people there are. We don't know how many staff people are there. We don't know what they're being paid. So it seems to me if we've cut the funding for this program down to less than...I don't know what that is, 5 or 6 percent, when it's already underfunded to begin with, are we going to have people just sitting there? Are we going to have paid staff people there that are just going to sit there that don't have the funds to do anything else? Senator Jensen can't answer that question. Senator Byars can't answer that question. They say this is the minimum amount needed to fund the program to keep the infrastructure in place and, yet, they can't tell us how many people are there. They can't tell us how much money they make. They've not discussed the merits of this program. What does this program do? I'm going to read to you some more on the next time I'm able to speak. I'm going to read to you some more of this packet of information that came from Utah. And this information could be obtained from the Internet. I mentioned to you that there's almost 3 million...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...hits when you push in...put in "stop smoking."

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. We are on Select File, discussing the Landis amendment, AM2113, which is an amendment to LB 285A. Further discussion, Senator Aguilar.