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LB 962

that way...and some of them were disappointed. They really thought this had a chance of going. And I did tell them, I think the Legislature thinks water is important, but I said having a dedicated sales tax fund for the Water Policy Task Force probably was a long shot, and I think I proved them correct. And we had a long discussion after that failed, because some of them really felt like they were let down by this body and by the Revenue Committee. But they said, you know, it's important that we carry out the provisions of this, and if we can't get a dedicated sales tax money for it, or if we can't get all the money we want the first year, considering the revenue situation in the state, we better move on with what we've got, because there's too much at stake here not to proceed. And now if you need more time, I can push my light. Just let me know.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Did you hear the news last Friday, Senator, about the \$104 million new deficit we have?

SENATOR SCHROCK: No, would you tell me what happened?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would you like the long story or the short story, Senator?

SENATOR SCHROCK: No, I know the story, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: If we have...if there's \$104 million that we don't have, where are we going to get the \$4.5 million for this bill?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, it's 2.5 the first year, and I'm one of those optimists that think maybe there will be more revenue next year. And of course, we always review those things. But, you know, if I just might speak...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Where are we going to get the \$2.5 million this year, Senator?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, we have the fairy godfather over here with his magic wand that will help us out,...