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LB 962

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHROCK: ...the Chair of the Appropriations Committee.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'd like to call upon the fairy godfather, Senator Cudaback, if he would respond.

SENATOR CUDABACK: That doesn't show on our script here.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. I'll let the fairy godfather stand in his own good time. But, Senator, I'm being a little facetious here. I hate to get...I'm entirely too serious always, but it...we're in a situation where we have a call upon us for 100 new caseworkers because kids are dying in foster care. The Governor has a mental health program that just has to be done this year. I mean, we can go on for years and years, but it has to be done this year now, and it's kind of like the water thing. It's kind of gone on for years and years, but suddenly this year it has to be done, I think in both cases because some large group of people worked on it, not because it's gotten precipitously...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...worse in one year.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, you may continue. Your light is next.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So that's money. Medicaid continues to grow way past rates of inflation, and we can't control that. The Governor suggested cutting \$10 million from a number of agencies, including the university. We're forcing property taxes back up on K-12 education. As you probably know, we're going to \$1.05. Do you support that, Senator, by the way?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I gave in and supported a three-year extension. I wanted a one-year extension, but Senator Raikes convinced me.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So those horrible property taxes that you were