

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

March 18, 2004 LB 46, 1089

remember how much money? And again, I'm not advocating for, you know, additional cuts here. I'm just trying to explore where we are and what we're doing. But do you remember how much we raised in fees in terms of total dollars? You know we took...we funded two or three programs that previously were funded under general court money and made them specific to court funds.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Retirement was a big part of that, and I cannot remember the breakdown off the top of my head, Senator Bourne. A big chunk of it did go into retirement.

SENATOR BOURNE: Right, I realize that, and that was something we absolutely needed to do because that fund was drastically underfunded. But I thought we also funded some programs that were previously funded...

SENATOR JANSSEN: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...through the General Fund or the court's general fund with fees.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I'm blank.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. We can explore that a little bit as well.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I will say there is an increased court caseload, one of the reasons we left that in, and also we did not...the cuts were going to come in parole and we did not want to cut...probation, excuse me, probation. We did not want to cut that area when LB 46 is on the verge of working and improving. It seemed like false economy for us to cut the courts when probation would be one of those that they would be proposing to cut.

SENATOR BOURNE: Which makes some sense, I agree with that. I want, then, as it relates to the community colleges, you had heard me ask Senator Raikes if we had given additional levy authority to the community colleges?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.