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SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Thank you, Senator Don Pederson. I appreciate it. As Senator Chambers has highlighted, I continue to oppose the Wehrbein amendment, not because it's the Wehrbein amendment, but because I want us to deal with the situation as it is. I want us to focus upon where we are. Where are we? Well, it's this stark. We have no money. We face a \$151 million judgment. The interest on that judgment will soon rise to \$44,000 per day or \$16 million per year just in interest and rising. And that's not hypothetical as I'll endeavor to explain later. We are cautiously hopeful that we will have more money sometime in the future. And we are holding out some small sliver of hope that the judgment just might go away if we cross our fingers tightly enough. And yet many things are business as usual. We are not willing to examine other alternatives, and we want to go right on spending \$300 million a year, catch that, we are spending \$300 million a year cash, cash, on highways. I'm not against highways and anybody who listens knows I'm not against highways. I'm simply saying sometimes in government you have to be creative with that which is before you that's fungible and money is fungible. So what would a prudent person do faced with the circumstance we have before us when they're spending \$300 million a year on highways just like clockwork? Well, first when you have a contingent liability, you do in fact do something about how you're going to pay for it. You put money aside so that you don't face any kind of a shock in the future and not have it. We don't want to incur 10 percent interest per day at the rate of \$44,000 per day in penalty interest. We do not. And hoping against hope isn't particularly factual. Second, if you think you will be getting more income but you don't have it now and you have the capacity to borrow judiciously, carefully, wisely, then that's what good money management is all about. I suspect many of you have done it, are doing it, and will do it in the future. To foolishly insist on no debt...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.