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FLOOR DEBATE

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be here, what, four years from now, or six years from now, none of us going to be here--you can take care of it later down the road, you folks; I'm not going to join in that scenario, period. I want to go back to something we said...I said this morning, or Senator Wehrbein and I were visiting about. We're growing in this state, pretty good shape. It upsets me a lot that the negative attitude is out there that the state is still not growing. Senator Wehrbein said on the mike this morning, our...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BAKER: ...revenue growth is projected at 3.9 percent for the fiscal year that ends June 30; 3.9 percent. We can't live within our means with 3.9 percent growth. To me, that's amazing, with all the \$350 million of new taxes we put in place last year, that we're still growing at 3.9 percent. Folks, that's a good rate of growth. It's just that we can't seem to adjust to 3.9 percent. We've got to have more. We've got to have some more money, folks; 3.9 percent taxpayers isn't enough growth. We want to grow at 6, 7, 8 percent. I don't buy that. As I started this five minutes, I understand, school administrators don't like to be placed in a position of uncertainty when it's dealing with certification February 1. I understand that. I served on a school board 12 years. But it's something we can work around. It's not an impossible task to recertify, and I think the taxpayers are demanding it. I don't think the taxpayers are...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BAKER: ...demanding it; I know they are. I'm hearing from them. The taxpayers are saying, enough. So, thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Chambers amendment, FA1580 to the Education Committee amendment, Senator Louden.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I don't see much difference between whether it's \$1.07 or \$1.10 or wherever it is. It's a case where you look like you're