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FLOOR DEBATE

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not quite, \$28,000. I want to remark sometimes it looks like \$28,000. Well, you can just take \$28,000 out. But if you have good people working, all things considered with salary and perks, most salaries need to be funded at the level of \$35,000 to \$40,000. So if you cut 25, they're 15 short of a full person, and many times that 25 has to translate into a whole person, or \$40,000, because they don't have the funds to fully fund a person and 28 represents part of 40, so you lose a person, which is, many minds, I guess that's okay, but you lose a person in their office that may be responsible for something, or it might be an auditor, which would be probably more than that. But the issue is a cut here is fairly severe to the State Auditor at this point in time. Attorney General took none and there we, in fact, we are adding positions there because...in another bill because of the prosecution of child welfare cases. Then we go to State Treasurer. As I recall, he said he probably could absorb that. He was still looking into his agency in detail. He's fairly fresh, obviously, into the budget side of it, but he thought he could live with that, the cut that we had proposed. This one is Public Service Commission. They're heavily in General Funds, and I read over their testimony. They have raised...we raised rates last year and so they are more heavily cash funded than they were. Fact, they raise about \$130,000 General Fund. Their money goes into the General Fund and so they have a net increase in the revenue they generated, but they are also short of people in their elevator inspections and some others, and I've got that detail if you want to come back and talk about it.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: But \$28,000 will hurt them, I believe, in doing the jobs that they're supposed to do. And remember, we've added quite a bit of additional workload to the Public Service Commission in the last few years. In fact, we've increased it quite a bit. The Parole Board is fairly nominal, although the truth of the matter is they are simply people and travel time, and their caseload is fairly heavy. If you recall, there's been a change in philosophy on the Parole Board. They are doing a lot of increasing parolees. I think the figure was 250. They have to travel. They spend long days. This is, in a small way,