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FLOOR DEBATE

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on the spending side, I agree with some of the comments that we can't do nothing, but this is not the way to go, in my mind. I'm going to continue to listen to the debate. I would yield the rest of my time to Senator Brashear.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Brashear, 1 minute, 34.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Thank you, Senator Bourne. Thank you especially because maybe you aren't going to like what I wanted the time for. I'll try and be crisp and brief. I thought I could set this particular amendment out and just listen to the wisdom from the floor. But you know, when there's a lot of money involved, why, then the lobby fills up. And then they start spinning. And of course, I just want to put this in parameters. You know, if you got \$500 million cash in state tax money sitting in a special fund that you control, and you got \$200 million of federal highway money and you're trying to get more, so you...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...got \$700 million sitting in a fund, and the only thing it can be spent for, if they get their way, is for their bills to do what they want to do, that fills a lobby real quick; \$700 million of very special interest will get everybody spinning out there. I have reconfirmed, but I in fact was trying to provide good information, it is 10 percent statutorily. And listen to this--one of the lesser or secondary matters at issue in the appeal is whether the 10 percent interest is retroactive, retroactive. So at the rate we've been going in this lawsuit, with our batting average, we could be sitting here incurring \$44,000 per day, but we don't know it yet, and they're going to tell us later, and then we'll owe that, too. So the 10 percent is a real figure. And I may run out of time, but strategically, I'd like to suggest, who's going to negotiate with you when you haven't got anything?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. I'm sorry, Senator Brashear. Senator Chambers.