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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 1065

I will oppose Senator Cunningham's amendment. There are so many people carrying water in here today. If you don't allow the proration, then the full amount that might be due under these handout programs would have to be anted up. If there's not enough money in the fund to pay, there would be no proration. You would have to come up with the full amount. The state would be obligated. Somebody could go to court. And you're crying now about a \$150 million judgment in the nuclear waste site boondoggle. Won't this Legislature ever learn? People have been whining about that judgment, saying that mistakes were made, and looking back on it, the same thing would not be done again. Well, you're being asked to do it now with ethanol. This is one of the most lame-brain offerings that the Legislature has had presented, if the Legislature is seriously considering doing this. The big shots who are cleaning up through the ethanol boondoggle certainly want something like this. I don't believe that my colleagues are so unaware of the implications of Senator Cunningham's amendment that they will support it. Maybe they will. But if they do, and you're crying about how to find enough money to pay off the obligations that exist now, what are you going to do then? People are saying that various mistakes were made along the way to where we are now. And they can mention the specific bills, the actions that were taken, and how they were mistakes and hurtful. Now, instead of rectifying a bad situation, the finances of the state are to be wrecked. Who is going to come up with that money? Senator Cunningham probably had somebody give him that amendment, so he offered it. But that does not mean we have to accept it. If it's accepted, it just gives me another reason to stand against LB 1065. Now, whoever bill it is can attempt to invoke cloture. But I believe, even though it's been designated a superpriority, it still must command 33 votes. And we are doing some hardball playing now, some heavy horse trading. And I was telling Senator Bourne that these labor people don't believe that I can dismantle organized labor in four years that I have left in the Legislature. I believe I can do more to hurt labor by myself than the "Repelican" party, the business people, the bankers, and all of them put together, because I won't let them get a single bill through the Legislature. And it's too bad Senator Tyson is gone, because some of these bills that he has tried to bring, where you compare what's happening in other