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FLOOR DEBATE

April 6, 2004      LB 1065

Senator Wehrbein's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. The amendment has been adopted. I do raise the call.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill at this time, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Further discussion on advancement of LB 1065 to E & R Initial? There are four lights on. Senator Beutler, followed by Senators Hartnett, Baker, Smith. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I'm not sure whether it makes sense to add anything to this conversation at this point or not, but I am bothered by the fact that, as I understand it, we are \$10 million short of what LB 1065 provided in its original form. Is that more or less accurate, Senator Wehrbein? And I guess I'm wondering if there's any interest in the body in a one-time transfer of \$10 million from the motor vehicle sales tax to make up that difference so that we're...so that we're funding what we have rather than creating another large gap here to go along with the rather large budget gap that we have next year anyway. And we seem to be more and more kind of pushing these problems off to the time when none of us will be here, which I think is an enormous mistake. I think we have a special responsibility before we leave this place to have the house in order in the most thoughtful way that we can put it in order, and I guess I would be interested if there is any interest in this body in trying to make up that \$10 million here quickly by switching some one-time funds into the ethanol fund from the motor vehicle sales tax, and I would just leave that open for discussion. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members of the body, I think Senator Raikes raises a question. We...we're going to fund up to about 2010. We're going to fund four plants. There's maybe five come on, on board. Maybe...Senator Cunningham, can I ask