

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 13, 2004 LB 1017

money collected from the amnesty program into a fund from which will be funded a certain number of additional auditors who can then, on the basis of those funds, do a better job of auditing. Now, the reason I'm taking an interest in that is because, believe it or not, the evidence from the head of the Department of Revenue before the Appropriations Committee this year was that every auditor they had working in that office at that point in time was bringing in...they were bringing in, on average, \$600,000 apiece. A \$50,000 to \$65,000 auditor was bringing in \$600,000. Now what that tells me...and the Appropriations Committee wasn't able to act on it much, because we didn't have much by way of funds. But what that tells me is that we're really underauditing seriously, because the marginal utilities to the ..of adding additional auditors should be plain and obvious to all. Your amendment provides that a certain amount of the money collected goes in to the auditors...or to the Department of Revenue, in order to employ more auditors. Could you pick up from there and tell us what happens the first year and what happens the second year? And then I want to know if that program is going to continue, or whether it will come back to General Funds. And I'm very interested if whether that program can be modified in some way so as to continue the mechanism indefinitely at a level that seeks the marginal utility of adding one additional auditor, if you understand what I mean. I'd yield the remainder of my time to Senator Landis.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Landis, about 2, 20.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. The amnesty period will be coming from August to October. We will be collecting money from...that's right, just for this coming year. Now of that money, no less than all...80 percent of all revenue received pursuant to the tax amnesty program goes into the General Fund. That's of this money that we'll get through this amnesty. Ten percent, not to exceed \$500,000, so it's capped, shall be deposited in the Department of Revenue Enforcement Fund; and another 10 percent, again not to exceed \$500,000, total of \$1 million, shall be deposited in the Department of Revenue Enforcement Technology Fund. One of the chief tools of catching nonfilers is matching computer linkage with other jurisdictions and the federal government. So there's two parts--computer, and