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SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: And by our constitution, we don't think we can do that in Nebraska. We can't go below zero.

SENATOR BEUTLER: The...so we're at the tail end of benefits. What does this bill do...and you make the comparison in some way that can make sense to me. I don't know how you would do that, but how is this changing the overall benefit? And I'm not so much interested in the transition period...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...as I am down the line. I mean, are we reducing the benefits further?

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Senator, in the bill the benefits that will be reduced are for the first two years there will be a benefit freeze. That amounts to about \$2.7 million a year savings to the fund. So that happens for the first two years. It also happens...the intent of the bill was to have that also happen if we ever had to initiate a solvency surcharge, and only then. And we're working on an amendment to try to fix the wording to clarify that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. So in the bill, there were these elaborate charts, which you've now eliminated, that covered, looks like, eight or nine different pages in the bill. And you've gone from these elaborate charts that broke it down by...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Beutler. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Louden, on FA108.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. As I've listened to this discussion for the day, I guess I mostly have questions. I'm sure I don't have any answers since I haven't been down here this many years. I guess my first isn't exactly a question but I'm wondering why this thing got in such a bad shape before the problem was addressed. It looked like to me there should have been some consideration a few years back. The other question that I kind of have, I was wondering if Senator Cunningham would yield to a question,