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

April 5, 2005 LB 689

have the information to make that sort of a recommendation. That, I think, would likely lead us astray, because I think we'd be recommending some things that we would later regret. What we've chosen as an alternative here, as Senator Stuhr has, is to suggest that we make a detailed, high-priority study of how we proceed on this issue, and then to not authorize the expenditure of any money by the group that's coming up with this plan, but rather to make sure that a reasonable appropriation -- some of you with "reasonable"--a reasonable arque the term appropriation be allowed for, pending the outcome of that...of the study. That's what's proposed here. There would be a study at the...that would begin at the end of this session, would be completed with a report by the end of the year. There would be a bill introduced next session to make a specific set of recommendations regarding this issue, and along with that, a recommendation for an appropriation of funding. We don't know at this point...and Senator Chambers and others are certainly right. To some extent, the dollar amount is little more than a But by the same token, I think it's prudent, in the sense that if it is at all in the ballpark, it gives warning as to what this might cost, and makes...draws attention to the need to set aside that amount of money. So that's the approach. Again, I welcome your comments on this. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Further discussion. Senator Mines, Senator Redfield, Senator Louden, Senator Beutler, Stuhr, and Senator Brown. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. When you're seventh or eighth in line, many of your questions have been asked and answered already. And I did spend some time talking with Senator Raikes and some technical people out behind the glass. You know, the questions I have are, I believe, practical. One would be, why are we allocating money or appropriating money before we know what we're going to appropriate the money to? And I understand the reasoning. And there is a madness to...or, a method to Senator Raikes' madness. However, I think some procedures might better be followed if we first took a look at the needs and necessities, and then, as Senator...as other senators have said, let's come back next year and make appropriations for that. I do like the idea of the