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three and four years, and we asked for money out of the Highway Trust Fund to help us through this process, it was tough sledding, believe me. So why would we want to position ourselves and position future Legislatures and have them be faced with a large earmarked fund that cannot help us through the fiscal crisis? In our sales taxes, how many of our sales taxes, this is a sales tax, how many of our sales taxes are earmarked? One. Sales tax on motor vehicles goes into the Highway Trust Fund. It's the only sales tax that's earmarked. Shouldn't be earmarked, but it is earmarked. That's history. It's beyond our control even now, so strong is the lobby on that question. But it's bad policy and we ought not to go there with respect to this particular sales tax while we now have the opportunity to treat this like what it is, a sales tax. Put the money into the General Fund and then fund the programs every year, as we do out of the Appropriations Committee. And the big difference is that because it's General Funds, every year in the Appropriations Committee we will take a close look at whether that fund needs to be increased or not, and we'll compare it to all other funds and spending, and a decision will be made and a recommendation will be given to you and you can decide. But, generally speaking with regard to cash funds, if the amount of this revenue increases dramatically and you don't need that much money in there, it's harder to transfer it,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...whereas the Appropriations Committee might, if there were an excess amount in there, simply not appropriate so much to that purpose and put the rest aside in the Reserve Fund for future purposes, maybe in that area. So I would like for you to think carefully about the question of whether this money should be earmarked. I gave you a history, and it's been passed out to you, of how the documentary stamp tax was...what the processes it's gone through have been, and you'll see that originally it all went to the General Fund, that part that didn't go to the county. But slowly and surely two things happened. One, the folks who most want to use this money, of course, want to protect it to the maximum.

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