

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

May 4, 2005

LB 424

period of time. Some of these carry on beyond that time limit. And we can go through those. I'm not certain how long it will take for the State Capitol Masonry Project, because as I said earlier, whenever they've torn into something, they've found something else that was needed. And we know that it will go on. We've got the money that's shown in this. But this was to phase the construction project and to attempt to get that project moving on a regular time, keep the employees here at the same time. If we could, it would be wonderful if we could add additional monies to the Masonry Project, because we know that it would probably have a benefit dollar-wise to the state to do that, because we're having to delay a lot of things that, if they were working on it at one time, it would benefit.

SENATOR RAIKES: Let me pursue that with you somewhat. How much money has the state spent so far on the Masonry Project at the State Capitol?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Approximately \$21 million so far.

SENATOR RAIKES: And I think you already addressed this to some extent. But is there a total number that you can come up with at this stage?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: We know that it will be something in excess of \$10 million to finish the project. And...

SENATOR RAIKES: For a total of \$31 million, then, or so?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: We've had totals that we've been totaling for a long time. And as we've broken into it, we've found we have to keep increasing the total. But we're working with a...not just a multimillion dollar project; we're working with a priceless project. So we have to do what we have to do in order to maintain this building. And I think the people of the state would expect us to do that, Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Realistically, would it be appropriate to assume that there will be money spent on this effort for, say, ten years?