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can for a minute, and make a little announcement to the body. I just received a phone call this morning from home and my granddaughter just gave birth to a nine pound, nine ounce girl, making me a great-grandfather for the first time. Mother and daughter are doing well; grandfather feels very old. Thank you. (Applause)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Aguilar, and congratulations also. Senator Aguilar, your light is up next. Did you wish to...thank you. Senator Louden.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. Yeah, I, too, are pleased that Senator Stuthman has brought this forward. These are something that if there is some money available or if we can see our way clear to help the counties in any way we can. Whenever we can help counties out, they consequently use that to help on some of their local citizen projects and their...goes into their funds, their local county funds and whatever they're strapped for. Anything that the counties have to spend usually comes out of local property tax, and so, consequently, if they have to spend it on something that takes care of state business, why, that's less money that they have to spend on local issues. I think this is a worthwhile project. This is something that at the present time the counties, at times, get along quite well, but there are places where some of these counties can be quite strapped if they happen to have a lot of, I would call it, bad luck, I guess, when they have several instances where people have to be brought down to the state facilities. So I think this is a measure that would do some good. It isn't that large amount of money, but wherever we can help out on something like this on our local level, I'm certainly in favor of it, and I certainly will support Senator Stuthman's amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Louden. Senator Hudkins.

SENATOR HUDKINS: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I will be supporting Senator Stuthman's amendment as well. As Senator Don Pederson explained, this is money that is due to the counties. Lancaster County and Douglas County take the brunt of it, of course, because that's where the larger of the