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LB 425

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I have for years supplied Westside High School with a number of Blue Books, and they use them in their classes. They teach from them. It is a recording of the events of the previous years. And I think it's been used very, very wisely. You know, we got thousands of kids that come down here every year, and up in the balcony, and to be exposed to state government. There's also thousands of others that never make that trip. And so this is an opportunity for them to do so. I believe that I have a complete set of Blue Books that go back to 1950, in my office, that I've tried to collect over the years. I don't know how many others around there have that type of collection. But it's not for my benefit. But it sure is great to look back in the thirties, when, yes, there was a Depression going on, and what went on in the state. And that is a history book. And it kind of bothers me when we say that we're going to stop giving out history books. Now, I'll admit, I enjoy history a little more when you start to become part of it, I guess, at my age. But I really think that this is an asset, this is a recording of the state's history. And just to walk away from that...and yes, when I got that little CD--I think it's a CD, rather than a place to set your coffee on. I have never figured that out. I'm still struggling with this modern technology. But I really do feel that, yes, there are places to cut. And I don't wish to spend any more money than we need to. But perhaps we could reduce this expense, as Senator Janssen said, in eliminating some of the cost of postage; or, for that matter, to even charge a fee for these books. I think they're that important. Schools right now are buying all kinds of educational books. Yes, they're short of money, too. But I really, really would like to see this continue, and would support Senator Schimek's move. I'm glad she brought this forward. Senator Schimek, do you want any more time? Or you are...I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature,