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LB 425

and I commend the state for doing it for several years, and I wish they could have continued to do it. But since it's not in, I really appreciate the fact that I was...did accomplish my amendment earlier in the day, quite a few hours ago,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: ...and then I'm just giving information about what we're discussing right now, but I'm not saying, you know, that we should do it. I'm just concerned about the process and how we're coming up with our numbers. Thank you.

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

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I was just looking up at the board. It says LB 425. It does not say ATM. And...(laughter)...so, Senator Erdman, I was informed this was not...this proposal you have was not necessarily sponsored by the NACO and this is something that you're doing on your own and that's fine. I think that's not a problem. But if you look at the statute that this comes from, which in this dark light and storms coming, 77-3618, subsection (d) provides, "The amount distributed to a county shall not exceed an amount equal to the result of a tax rate of five cents per one hundred dollars on the assessed value of the county." It says the amount distributed. Neither the Governor nor we in the Appropriations Committee distributed any money, so I think we complied with the law. It says we won't go over and we didn't. We gave zero. So I think that this is a matter that I appreciate your efforts in trying to do this but, on the other hand, we are not required to fund it and we didn't. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Pederson, you have absolutely read the statute correctly. Congratulations. The last line of the statute does say, though, that the distributions under the program will resume. So the fact that you have the flexibility, there's also a conflict in this statute that says we will resume those distributions. So