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LB 425

SENATOR SCHROCK: I was going to talk a little about ethanol and whine a little bit. But I think I'll turn my time back to the Chair. (Laughter)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I...Senator Flood just said what I was going to say, so I'm not going to take any five minutes to repeat what he said. But this is not a continuing obligation. This is a two-year program we're working on here. It's an investment. It gets the money off the table. To be honest with you, I'm afraid somebody is going to...if we leave it there, somebody is going to come up with a program that does commit us over a multi-year period of time. And we can't afford to take that chance. We'll be able to evaluate this at the end of two years. This is my last budget, and seems to be going pretty well. So I'd like to leave things where we are, get the bill moved to Final Reading, and go on. But if we can't do that, I guess we'll discuss it a little bit further. But I see, the downside of this is somebody trying to spend this money for some other program down the road here. And there's a lot of those bills still out there, requiring funding. And I don't want to see that happen, where we're obligating future Legislatures into a program that we can't afford. This is a one-time program. We'll evaluate it. I guess I won't be here. But it will be evaluated--as Senator Flood said, he's going to be one of those people doing it--and then make a decision whether to continue it or not, and at what funding level if they do. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I really don't think 9:00 or 9:30 has anything to do with anything. I don't think that's why somebody made a motion to call the question. And that's been apologized for. But you know, I hope we don't really get to the point where it's a sin to try. When the body then decides it doesn't want to call the question, that's a pretty definitive answer, and the debate goes on. And I think that's probably fine. A number of hours ago,