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FLOOR DEBATE

March 15, 2006 LB 1060

is much, much smaller, and is an ongoing annual appropriation. The endowment, \$5 million was put into the endowment in 1998. This bill would purport to put more money into that endowment, and the endowment, as you understand already, is not spent every year like the annual appropriation is, but rather, just the interest off the endowment is spent annually. Did that answer your question?

SENATOR ERDMAN: It...I think we're going to get there. So the money that's being proposed would go into the fund that already has a certain amount. I think you've said earlier it's a little more than \$5 million, that is currently in the fund.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Then what is the amount of money that would be able to be used for the purposes of the intent language in the bill? Is it the \$5 million that's in the fund plus this, or is it only this...

SENATOR BEUTLER: No.

SENATOR ERDMAN: ...whatever amount it is, whether it's the \$5 million, Appropriations Committee, or maybe the \$1.5 million that Senator Fischer was offering?

SENATOR BEUTLER: That's a fair question. The intent language goes only to the new money, so if we put \$2 million in, if the return on that \$2 million is \$200,000, that would be the maximum that could be used, assuming that they get matching funds for that.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Sure, sure.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Matching private funds.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Okay.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Or nonstate funds.

SENATOR ERDMAN: And so the...and I understand kind of the