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FLOOR DEBATE

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question for you. I don't...the bill was passed several years ago.

SENATOR SMITH: But just without funding?

SENATOR RAIKES: Right.

SENATOR SMITH: Was the funding vetoed?

SENATOR RAIKES: The program was put in statute. The funding was not provided at the time.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay.

SENATOR RAIKES: Or, the funding, I think, maybe was provided in the future, but by that time we'd gotten into a position financially as a state that we simply deemed it not prudent to support the program.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Thank you, Senator Raikes. And I would like to see if Senator Thompson would yield to some questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Thompson, would you yield to...?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Thompson, if I have this accurate, please...or, if I don't have this accurate, please tell me. Several years ago, we passed a bill that had funding attached for the program, and the funding was subsequently removed. Is that accurate?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: And so this year we have a proposal...or, through this amendment...or was there a bill earlier this year to fund the program?

SENATOR THOMPSON: Well, actually, if you...if this whole bill doesn't pass, if LB 1208 doesn't pass, it was...this was going...it was implemented. The department...and I don't want