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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...they ought to have the right to do so, and I wish (laugh) Senator Smith well. Oh, I'll have a lot of fun as I read his press releases and see him taking the reins in Congress and making them do the right thing in Congress like he makes people in the Legislature do the right thing. Notice the kind of issues he speaks on. They're safe. Everybody goes for it. All of a sudden, he's for public safety. He hasn't talked about public safety that I can recollect, or if he did, it made no impression on my mind, but I remember it from this day. So what I've got to do is indicate to the best of my ability that we're not talking about public safety here at all. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. There are no other lights on, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, did you wish to...?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I will pull that amendment, that motion. I withdraw that motion.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It has to be with unanimous consent, Senator Chambers. Anybody object? It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk. Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, as you could tell from my initial remarks, I was very reluctant to file this amendment because it was contrary, basically, to what the Appropriations Committee had determined. The committee had determined that we cannot arbitrarily start funding monies when the federal government drops those monies. So it put the state in a difficult position. A method then was determined where it could be done, partially restoring some of this money, on a one-time basis, a one-shot deal. But even that sets a bad precedent for us. And I've been very concerned. I think it's very important that we've had the debate on this floor to discuss this issue and to have people explain their concerns. We all have a concern about methamphetamine. I think that it was obvious that the federal government determined that you can't just keep going after the little offenders, the little dealers and so forth; you have to get at the root cause of this sort of thing. And it's for that reason that they dropped the