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FLOOR DEBATE

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ceasing debate. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 28 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate,
Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does cease. Senator Schimek, you're recognized to close on the first division of the divided committee amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise to encourage you to vote for FA648. This would leave in the basic underlying bill. I think it was maybe Senator Erdman who suggested that we should take it out and work on the language and then put it back in. I think that's contrary to the way we usually do it. We usually work...leave the language in, work on it, and then advance it. So I am willing to try to address some of the concerns that have been raised. And I think that, again, I think it's a good bill. Senator Erdman, I really do need to clarify, you're right. I used the word "agency" and that was not a proper usage. This is a policy office. It's not an agency. And to the best of my ability to predict the future, it's not going to mean more money just because we're putting two legislators on there, to the best of my ability to predict the future. Now at some point in time do we want to come back and make this an agency? I doubt it very much. I doubt it very much, because I think those federal funds are going to go away, and we are not going to have such huge expenditures of money. But meanwhile, we need to do our very level best to make sure, to make certain that we know what's going on. And I like the intent language in the appropriations bill. I think it's good. I think really the Appropriations Committee needs that kind of information and oversight, if you want to call it that. So I would encourage you to adopt this as well because this is working in tandem with the appropriation intent language. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. The question before the body is, shall the first division of the divided committee amendments be adopted? All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Voting on adoption of the first portion of the divided question, being the committee amendments. Have you all