TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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If you had each individual teacher out there trying to spend all their time finding out what's best in the world, what's working, that sort of thing, you'd have all these people spending time doing that. And this is a way of making education much more efficient, in a way. Now no, we can't ... we may not be able to deal with all the federal cutbacks. But the fact that we can't make up for all the federal cutbacks, and we probably won't do that next year, doesn't mean, nor did the committee follow entirely the principle that we weren't going to replace any federal funds. We looked skeptically at everything. But still, it's our decision, it's our society. It's we who have to decide ultimately whether something that the federal government no longer wants to help us with, we will choose not to do it anymore simply because we're not getting the help. We have to make that decision on a case-by-case basis and I would think that would be the practical way that we would all look at that. And a lot more of those kinds of decisions will have to be made in the future. And I think that's why we started out on such a cautious approach. But the fact that it was a federal cutback that caused the consideration of the matter shouldn't in and of itself be decisive by any means, nor should the fact that it's a large department be decisive. If the assumption is all large departments are inefficient and have lots of money laying around, don't bet too heavily on that. And don't bet too heavily on the fact that they'll be able, if there is a small amount of money, that they'll be able to get it to the right place. We know that HHS is a huge department. But have they figured out how to get money over into foster care or to get money over into four or five different areas that any one of you can identify?

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, we don't manage to do that. In fact, what we've done with DHH to a certain extent is that we've allowed Governors to bleed them of employees to such an extent they can't do everything they're supposed to do, even though they're huge. And that's why we should fund these things and not say, well, you're a big department, you find the extra money. You can only do that so long and then, in order to get the extra money, they're taking it from someplace else. Then they're not