

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

April 13, 2006 LB 1024

guess what? All I can give you is nine question marks. I have no idea. And as a responsible member of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, on that basis alone you can't support this bill. On that basis alone, I have seen the Chairman of our committee vote red on fiscal matters that are less than \$100,000, less than \$200,000 on A bills; on my bill, \$750,000. But yet, we will adopt a bill that will set in motion an expenditure beyond \$28 million in the next year biennium, and then in '10-11...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: ...we have no idea. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Senator Friend, followed by Senator Kruse, Cornett, Beutler, Raikes, Erdman, and others.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I'm always...I'm fascinated by, and I brought this up a couple times, I'm fascinated by the argument within, not just our Legislature, but other legislatures, that says we have to do something. Failure is not an option, that type of thing. This isn't the Apollo 13. We don't have, you know, Haise, Swigert, and Lovell on the dark side of the moon and leaking oxygen like a sieve. They got home. The sun will come up and the birds will sing tomorrow if this bill doesn't pass, folks. We know that. Failure, by the standards of people outside of this body, is an option here. I don't think it's failure. I think you look at this bill and you say there are complications that normal legislators and normal legislatures shouldn't have to deal with in the time frame that we've had to deal with them. There are questions, we've raised legitimate ones, amendments all over the board, 20 of them, and we are rushing to judgment. We've been down that road. And I've been down the bicameral/unicameral road, too, and I'm not going to go down that road too hard. But I'll tell you what. Anybody that's still here next year--I could be, I guess, and anybody else that is--we are going to go down that road. That is the significant issue here. We are the only unicameral in the country and that has played a part in what we're doing. We all know that. And