

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

March 18, 2004 LB 1089

continuing to raise. You can't believe the electric bills that's going to raise next year, and anhydrous is clear out of sight, and my real estate tax went up 12.5 percent in one year and this will raise it another percentage or so, I know, if we go to \$1.10, because I know a lot of schools, maybe they won't do it but they will if they... anyway, it's available for them to do it by just a vote of the board. And I realize that this is not until July of 2005 before they need it, but they'll have to certify by February, so that's the reason for it. But if you look on line... on page 7 on the bill on the handout that Roger handed out, in line 19, you can see how the revenue just continues to climb every year, and yet we're in trouble. And so some way or another, we have to get the spending in line with it, and I just don't know how to do that. I know a lot of issues there that maybe they're small issues but... I do like to ask Senator Wehrbein a couple of questions, if he's available. On the blue...

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR JONES: ...handout, on page 36, on the blue handout,...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay.

SENATOR JONES: ...this is all General Fund money. Right? Starting on page 35, it says General Fund money?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR JONES: Okay. On 23, it says labor for total. Not a big deal, but \$527,473. I guess I need to know why that has to be there or what's it for?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Department of Labor.

SENATOR JONES: Yes. Line... number 23 on page 36.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yeah. Well, that's basically a federally-funded agency. We put in that much money. It's heavily funded by federal, and I'll have to look at another source here.