

general fund up front. Is that true, Senator DeCamp?

SENATOR DECAMP: That is absolutely correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, and that's absolutely what I'd advise you not to do because if you do that, then you're putting yourself once again in the danger of increasing tax rates and that is a problem that neither you nor I want at this particular point in time. I think we had it settled in everybody's mind and we had worked out the details quite carefully with regard to the bond issue and the amount of that bond issue, the principal and interest payment if you insisted on reducing it to \$8.5 million, would not be particularly large at all. It would be something that could be handled quite easily each year out of the general fund accounts. But Senator DeCamp's proposition envisions a radically different way of handling the payments and envisions paying out the entire \$8.5 million out of the general fund this year which I think causes us problems that we do not want. I hope you will wait for the Johnson amendment and attempt to do this in a different more incisive fashion.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: (No response.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman. Oh. We don't wait long.

SENATOR WESELY. Sorry, Mr. Speaker, members, I would oppose this amendment. I understand where John is coming from, but if you read it it says several times in here that the tort claim does not have valid legal basis and is not meritorious. A miscellaneous claim does not have a legal basis and is not meritorious and goes on from there to do everything it can to lose any sort of support base in this bill for the claim which will have to go to court. I suggest to you that that is not really being up front about it. I think, you know, if you don't want to support the claim let's just cut out the money for the miscellaneous claim rather than do this because this will essentially lose the case from what I can tell. Certainly I'm no expert and I really don't understand it all, but just from the words I've gotten it would indicate that it would lose the case. So let's be honest with ourselves, if you do this you gut the bill and it's a lost cause at that point. You know,