

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: LB 832 would simply increase the court fees so that that money that would be generated from that increase would then go to help fund the county automation project. We do have a sunset provision now on it which would be June 30, 1997, and at that particular portion we would then...the funding would drop off as far as the way it is done and there would be a total review then of the funding of...if we needed to continue it, how does the money need to go, and that is a very positive thing. That would not only be done by the Judiciary Committee in regards to the ramifications on how it deals with the courts in the counties and the automation but also by the Appropriations Committee. And I think when you have more than one committee having oversight in this particular case it's going to be...it's very, very helpful. So, again, 832 is a part of the general package but it is not a revenue enhancement so that we can restore cuts, though, in essence, what it is is a...is a way to free up General Fund money...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...so that we can use that money so we did not have to cut as badly in those areas. And I appreciate Senator Chambers yielding his time so I could give that explanation.

SPEAKER BAACK: Does anyone else wish to speak to this portion? Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: There were a couple other points that...that I...I may not have...I looked at some of the eyes of senators and they were...they're not quite...they were a little confused, I think, on the latter statement. What the Appropriations Committee is able to do, if we...when we incorporated this into the package is we were able to say that we were not going to use General Funds money necessarily to do this within this biennium. We were able to use that monies then so that we would not have to take as deep a cuts as were proposed originally. So if this bill would advance, those General Funds monies would be used as the Appropriations Committee has done in order not to take as deep a cuts as, say, in higher education and other areas as we originally were being forced to do by the...by the budgetary picture. If this particular proposal fails, if this particular proposal...thank you, Senator Hall, I appreciated...appreciated that. If this particular proposal, what, in essence, would happen is that