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LB 389

point do you have a cut-off? We were meeting up until the Monday night before...well, I guess not quite then, but we were meeting until a week before the budget came out, continuing to make determinations on specific items. And so even if this were not specifically included, this amount were not specifically included, there is latitude within the university budget, more latitude, probably, than any other budget by virtue of the control exercised by the regents to accomplish this. And so I just hope that you understand that the amount that we have increased the budget under 389 is an amount that I have some discomfort with, and every little chink in the armor is just one more thing that...it just gives the next person another justification. And if you are making decisions just on the merits of proposals, absent any strategic objective as to what rate of growth is acceptable, then everything is going to be acceptable. And so it's just a warning to you and also some understanding of where we were with the university budget in that we are.. we are above the Governor's numbers and we had had come to an amount that we felt was sustainable.

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: Thank you.

SENATOR WILL: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. President. If Senator Kristensen would yield to a question.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Kristensen, would you yield?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Senator Kristensen, I also am not going to get into the merits nor reason nor intent or purpose for your bringing this. I fully understand all of that, but given the amount that we're appropriating to the university and some of the comments that Senator Brown has made relative to the amount of latitude that we have over the spending, do you have some assurance from the university system that if we do allocate this \$34,000 that the project that you're hoping to see done will occur?