

Arthur

These are frustrating and hectic times for you. This follows up our conversation on Thursday. The HB1 budget passed in the House transfers funding from ADEM's center column with the mandate that none of the transfer come from the UST Fund to the General Fund. From a quick review of the HB 1 budget it appears only Judicial and Conservation also have a "sacred cow" restriction and those restrictions are for the benefit of those agencies and their work. It is clear the UST Fund "sacred cow" is for the benefit of Clouse's family business. This is outrageous.

I contacted you to reaffirm our earlier understanding that the UST Fund will be the source of any ADEM transfers because that is where the least damage to the work of ADEM will occur. The 1¢ per gallon can be adjusted, with little impact, to make the UST Fund whole or in the alternative the cleanup program can be very slightly delayed. Transferring from the Scrap Tire Fund or the Solid Waste Fund will decimate those programs since they have no alternative method to recover from the loss.

Rep Clouse did not reach out to us before submitting the amended budget so I am depending on you to find an agreement that will allow the UST Fund to be used to fund ADEM's transfers to the General Fund. Let me know if I need to talk with anyone in the legislature one-on-one.

thanks

Lance