

excited about that prospect but, nevertheless, you know the message is loud and clear from a lot of people that let's try and have a budget that holds the line on the tax rates in these hard economic times and I certainly want to try and achieve that goal. But to achieve that goal, the sort of pain and suffering that is going to result has got to be the sort of pain and suffering that is shared equally and equitably. If you take one group and hit them over the head with a hammer and the other group with a pillow you're going to have a little problem explaining that I think and I'm suggesting let's...

SENATOR LAMB: Thirty seconds, Senator.

SENATOR WESELY: ...take out some budgets and save some money in a way that is equitable so please vote against the Beutler exclusions. I don't think you need them and you keep the base broader to have a cut that's less severe than the two percent.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Hefner and then Senator Morehead to address the Beutler amendment to the Beutler amendment. Senator Hefner, are you available? If not, we'll temporarily pass on and, Senator Morehead. Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: The amendment.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Labeledz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Thank you, Mr. President. I was going to speak just on the amendment, but I now speak for the amendment to the amendment. Senator Wesely mentioned that we should make a clean cut across the board and let me begin by saying that every morning as I ride down to Lincoln I read the newspaper and I wonder how many of you read the for and against the budget cuts and the comments that are being made. We're saying that we should send this budget, the Appropriations budget, directly to the Governor without any cuts. Two calls I received last night wanted to know, and don't forget they're watching this all day long on cable TV in Omaha, they can't understand why we keep saying what we should do is send this to the Governor and let the Governor do the cuts and then we will not override any vetoes. Why are we spending three, four days on LB 722? I think the system should be changed. The Appropriations Committee