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constituents are going to ask you, why is there yet another fee on my phone bill? All you've done is raise my phone bill. You've freed up some General Funds to be sure, but did you cut my taxes a commensurate amount? No. So all we're really doing here is just taking more money from Nebraska citizens who are asking us not to do that, or at least many of the people I talk to are saying don't tax us any more. So, ultimately, I understand the concept, and I respect what Senator Beutler is trying to do. It makes sense to say, let's have the industry that's regulated paying for its own regulation. That makes sense. But the concept has not been discussed fully enough. And this is the type of thing that I believe we should have an interim study, we should have input from the Public Service Commission. There's been very little of it. From what I know, just talking informally with the folks over there, there is not a great deal of support for this concept simply because it hasn't had the time to be tossed around by all the parties involved. And the phone companies, when you talk to the phone companies, they certainly do not want to have yet another fee added to the bottom of a phone bill. So this is a concept who I...that I believe may have a time and place. Is that time and place today? I don't believe so. This needs a...this is a major change for the Legislature, a major change for the Public Service Commission. This is the type of thing we need to spend some time working on. I first heard of the concept when I found out the Appropriations Committee was going to include it here, or...or allow it to be an amendment. But there has not been, in my mind, enough discussion on the concept for us to move it forward this year. So I'm going to oppose the amendment now, but I'm certainly very much in support of an ongoing discussion on the concept.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Wehrbein.

**SENATOR WEHRBEIN:** Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I'm going to support Senator Beutler's amendment...excuse me...this...the amendment of the committee. It is Senator Beutler's, but it was LB 1249. I just looked here. I...it did have a hearing, for those that say it's somewhat of a surprise and so forth and so on. The...the first sentence of his text says the intent of the Legislature to reduce the General Fund to Public Service