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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 753

recall this bill from General File, this was the bill that clarified how the Department of Revenue treats electrical contractors as it relates to utilities. And this is a bill that I introduced on behalf of the electrical contractors. Senator Landis and the Revenue Committee was kind enough to prioritize this as one of their committee priorities, to clarify the status of the law. And if you'll recall, during the General File debate, we had...oh, there wasn't exactly clarity as it related to the fiscal note. But at the time, we made a commitment to try to come up with an amendment that would further narrow the focus of what this actually does, and here is the attempt. And basically, what we're saying is, the narrowing is, is that in that period between the court case and the passage of LB 759, utilities and electrical contractors are being separate...are being treated separately, in that the electrical contractors did not have to pay a tax on labor during that time frame. After the passage of LB 759, it's clear that they do pay taxes on their labor. But we're trying to clarify that window between the passage of the court case that gave the Department of Revenue the indication that they should treat an electrical contractor like a utility. We're trying to provide clarification, and the narrowing amendment says that it's on the customer's side of the utility demarcation point. And the demarcation point is the wall. So anything that is done by an electrical contractor inside the walls of a premise during the period of the court case decision being handed down and the passage of LB 759, we're making clear that there is no tax due and owing on the electrical contractors' labor for that time period. With that, I'd appreciate your support of this amendment that narrows the scope of LB 753, and hopefully solves the problem and the confusion that was generated by LB 759 as it relates to electrical contractors and utilities. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. You've heard the opening on AM1136 to LB 753. Open for discussion. Senator Bourne, I do not see anybody wishing to discuss. Senator Bourne waives closing. The question before the body is adoption of AM1136, offered by Senator Bourne to LB 753. All in favor vote aye; those opposed, nay. The question before the body is adoption of the Bourne amendment, AM1136. Have you all voted on the question who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.