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LB 499

SENATOR DE CAMP: Senator Beutler, you will learn that I am the most flexible person that you are ever going to run into.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, I am very leery of giving to a Visitor's Committee like this, the power to spend money.

SENATOR DE CAMP: You are making me leery, too, now, see? So I am going to look at it again.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Right now we have been moving back a little bit, towards a little more public representation on these different boards and the boards we have been talking about generally speaking are not even boards that have the sole authority to spend money. Now here we have a Visitor's Committee that is going to be spending money and there is no public representation on that board, a very new concept.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator George. Nope, he says I don't want to. The Chair recognizes Senator Powers.

SENATOR POWERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I rise in opposition to the amendment. In business when you want to get something done you go to professionals and this amendment would let the money get buried. I think the way the bill is originally written, the money would be made available to people who are professionals in the area of attracting people to our state. I was asked a question, what am I for, labor or the Chamber of Commerce? I am in favor of labor and I am in favor of the Chamber of Commerce and to attract and bring more business to our state through a proper use of this fund by professionals will benefit both. It is going to benefit the gas station operators. It is going to benefit the little cafe operator, the department stores, right down the line. It is going to benefit the economic structure of this state. I am in opposition to the amendment. I feel that the money should go without handcuffs on it and should be allocated by the duly appointed people and put into the hands of professionals who will take this money and bring more money to our state. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Keyes, did you wish to speak to the amendment to the amendment?

SENATOR KEYES: So that I can understand this amendment, Senator Dworak, what you are doing is taking the full tax and putting it into the general fund. Is that right?