

we must recognize the implications of President Reagan's new federalism. The new federalism implies that fewer dollars are going to be circulated to the federal government. It is seen in the cutbacks in the federal income tax, 5% this year already, 10% the next, 10% the following. It doesn't take long if we can explain it properly for citizens to understand that we are going to be beset in the future with continued shortfalls in tax dollars, especially since the state income tax is piggybacked on the federal. We must stop playing the role of Pontius Pilate and washing our hands of this economic reality. We must stop placing the tax monkey on the backs of our different institutions as far as who is going to hike taxes. I feel, I hope that you feel the same, that the buck stops at the door of the Board of Equalization, and if they can't stand the heat in the kitchen, it is time to get out. What my resolution basically does is recommends that the Appropriations Committee take their findings that they heard in committee and refer it to the Board of Equalization so that they can perform their constitutional responsibility of setting the tax rates, and where we in the next session can perform our duty of making the necessary appropriations or cuts in appropriations to meet the new economic reality. We can't do the executive branch's job and I am saying that is precisely what we have done here. We shouldn't encroach upon their responsibilities and we certainly can't allow the executive branch a back door veto. We, as legislators, need to reassert our will, be an independent body separate from the executive branch, and I ask you, whether Republican, Democrat, or independent alike, to declare your intent and resolve by pledging our loyalty and service to this body and set aside partisanship and our concern about future state elections. How else can we preserve the principle of separation of powers and maintain the delicate system of checks and balances that are part of our government? How can we still go on and refer to ourselves as state senators unless we set the record straight? I ask for your support of LR #1. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first motion I have is a motion by Senator Duda to reconsider the body's action in not adopting the Witala amendment. That is offered by Senator Duda.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Duda. By the way, he was on the prevailing side, so he is eligible to make this motion. We have already checked.