

of order and question the germaneness of Senator Landis's amendment to the bill. The...and in so doing, I would just explain that the bill deals with creation of a new act called the Property Tax Relief Act. The amendment that Senator Landis offers to the bill is an amendment that would increase by one-half cent the sales tax and I would ask for a ruling from the Chair based on that.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Landis, would you like to respond?

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, should the Chair rule against me on germaneness, I would not object and would offer a suspension motion but I do think it's germane. It's not uncommon for us to address the means of effectuating the end along with discussing the end product of a bill. Certainly, we have an A bill for that reason when it's just a straight appropriation. In this case, this bill costs money and it is quite common for us in the past to have offered tax increases to accompanying...to accompany large appropriations. I would suggest that the precedent of this body is very heavily in favor of that on a wide variety of issues and the Chair has, in my recollection, at no time denied the germaneness of that concept. I will leave it to the Chair and we'll the chips fall where they may.

PRESIDENT: Okay, thank you. I'm going to rule that it is not germane for the reason that the philosophy of the bill seems to be a tax shift and my understanding has been to take it out of present revenues rather than set up a taxing mechanism to continue. So I would rule that it is not germane.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Landis would then move to suspend Rule 7, Section 3(d), so as to permit consideration of his amendment to LB 84.

PRESIDENT: Fine. Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I think that the votes on this issue have to do with whether or not you want to have a sales tax increase or not to help fund 84. And, frankly, I ask you to think back to the precedent of that. I think if you think back to previous floor action, it's not uncommon for this body to link a sales tax increase or whatever with another accompanying major appropriation. We've