

willing to do that. They have said that, they're willing to do it and what they're going to do here is they are saying that if we're going to keep this kind of a proposal, the Investment Growth Act, in the statutes, we need to be open and honest and show folks like Senator Wesely that it is doing exactly what we want it to do. So they have come in and they have said, hey, we'll help do this. Yeah, they've had to be brought along with a collar a little bit and they've had to be tugged on more than once, but they have recognized that position. They have recognized that, hey, look, we currently give this information to the Department of Revenue, why shouldn't we open it up, give it to the Legislature and show them just exactly what takes place. They are being very honest and open about it at this point because they have said, with a few minor, technical changes that Senator Wesely had it adopted into the amendment and now in the form of LB 431, they are willing to take it. They can see that, yeah, this is going to help us protect what we put into place in 1987 through 775. There is no need for Senator Bernard-Stevens' amendment. All it does is try to delay the process this morning, keep us from getting to some bills that are farther down the agenda. I would urge you to reject it and vote to advance Senator Wesely's bill to E & R for final.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner, please. Okay, Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Yeah, Mr. President, members, Senator Hall pretty much said what I was going to say so I'm just going to indicate that I understand, Senator Bernard-Stevens, you're attempting to take up some time and I appreciate that, I think you...but let me indicate that this is a very important issue to me. I've worked three years to try and deal with this problem and for once we see a light at the end of the tunnel; that for three years I have tried to indicate that the public is putting a great deal of resources into LB 775 tax incentives and they deserve to know what is happening with it. And we finally got the chamber of commerce and even the Revenue Department to agree that information they have available should be shared, that the Legislature should have access to it, the public should have access to it. The battles he is trying to raise with this amendment are battles of the past. The last two years we did have language in to have staff people access information, do analysis of it, and I still think that would be a wonderful way to go. I think that's not a bad solution to the problem, but it's not the solution we need and should pursue at this time.