

paid? No, our system of justice says, they go and prove their claim, they go and prove their damage, they go and show us what we've done wrong. That is the reason that you've got the appellant in here right now, that's the reason you have to have filed your claim. You've got to go off and affirmatively do something. Again, I don't know about the dollars. The dollars shouldn't make any difference in your decision, it's whether the process is fair and right at this point, and I think that is the exact reason that we ought to leave that in. And, Senator Withem, I've been supportive of almost all the amendments that have been here today, and sometimes that scared me when I've agreed with you. But, no, just in passing, this is one of the amendments that I think we have to stand up and say the process isn't right here. And it's real easy to go and say, this isn't fair, this isn't fair, look at all these people who have been hurt. That is the reason that we're here, right here and now, to fix it for the future so that we don't have those problems, and that is where we ought to turn our attention to. The refunds, I think we're going to have to leave the process with the appellant and not just to everybody who happens to be in the same situation. Thank you.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Madam President, members of the body. Lots of things I wanted to say, lots of things I want to say and I don't really know where to begin, because I offered this amendment, not to kill the bill, I know that is the quick, easy way when you don't like something, just say that it kills the bill; not to pretend that there is no problem, because we all know there is a problem, there is a very serious problem, but to deal with what I see is an inequitable way of dealing with the problem. I'm getting a little frustrated when I hear people standing up here and saying, we've got to deal with the problem; this doesn't deal with the problem; the problem is an unfair tax system; when all this amendment does, excuse me, all the bill does, the amendment changes the bill, all the bill does is to protect us from what we've all said is a totally unfair system. This bill, the other bills, this Special Session does not begin to touch the problems that are out there, and that is what our frustration is. Does this amendment make the system more unfair? No, it doesn't. This amendment simply preserves the status quo, to listen to all the messages that you've been getting out in the Rotunda you would think that this amendment is devising some brand new, crazy scheme that we've never had