

legislation. So I would encourage you to support the advancement of this bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I, as I...as Senator Wesely indicated, there is really no point in talking about this much. It is going to advance and I suspect that it is like other, maybe it is written as well as you can write bad public policy and, therefore, ought to be approved. But I tend to view it a little differently. I think this is going to end up just as another tool, not to bring economic development, but another tool to increase property taxes. I know that we take the viewpoint, well, we are going to attract some industry by taxing those who somehow or other may benefit, but the bottom line in most of these is that those who do not participate in the benefits for sure will participate in the costs. And I suspect this is going to be another of the same ones. I noticed we have added transportation now. That ought to help buy a railroad. I suspect, Senator Wickersham, which may be, well, it's better local money than state, I suppose. But, nevertheless, there will be attempt after attempt, once this policy is established, to broaden it. It is inevitable and we will do it on the basis, well, it is okay because the voters have to approve it. The problem is that you can sell a lot of things on the voters on expectation and hope, and then when expectation and hope does not happen, they regret it. I appreciate that there is some limitations to the competitive nature that we talked about a lot on the constitutional amendment, but neither do I believe that that competitive nature within the state is going to be totally eliminated. I think it will continue to be there, and I think it is a kind of public policy that the ends just simply do not justify the means. I will vote against it, realizing, of course, that it is going to pass, but most certainly it is going to be another point where the cost of government will continue to rise and then we will all stand around and wonder how come the budgets are getting so much bigger. And these are the kinds of things that do it. Every time we make an expansion of what you can authorize a tax for, be assured, it is not going to result in lower budgets. It is going to result in higher budgets and, by and large, a great many people who will have no benefit will be the ones who will be carrying the burden. I think it is inappropriate public policy to implement.