

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wickersham, this is the money bill. Do you mind if I join you as a co-sponsor on this bill?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: May I use my alias of Jesse James? That is all I have to say as far as jesting in that fashion. I think this is a smoother job than Jesse would have done because it is going to loot the treasury but nobody is going to go to jail. Nobody is even going to risk prosecution. I think this is throwing money away. It is going to come back and haunt the Legislature, if it is done, and people are going to say about this like that NDIGC and all the others, I didn't know. I didn't understand. Ironically, I just opened a letter from Senator Schmit where he is offering again another proposal to try to give some money to the Commonwealthians. How much more can a divine providence do to bring a message to people who refuse to open their eyes? None are so blind as those who refuse to see. But I know that trying to get enough people to refrain from voting for this bill to keep it from advancing is impossible. But I want it crystal-clear from everything that I have said on the record that I am opposed to this, and I think it is a serious mistake. It is violating the first principle of economics, which is that you don't send good money after bad. With all of the supposed fiscal conservatives we have in this body who will go out during campaign time and talk about how careful they are with the state's money, to see those people support a scheme like this, to use some language used by Senator Peterson this morning, I think he used it, boggles my mind. But it is going to be done apparently, but it will be done without me. And, Senator Wickersham, I am not going to be so foolish as to say it will be done over my dead body, because the way this thing is going, that may very well happen. So you don't have to kill me to do this. I will be figuratively and symbolically killed, Senator Hall, by the slaughtering I am going to take on this vote because I intend to vote no on the final movement of the bill. The amendment, I am not going to do anything on that one way or the other because the crucial vote is on whether or not the bill will move, and I am putting in my request at this point for a roll call vote on advancement of the bill, not adoption of the amendment.