

April 3, 1992

LB 719A, 1063

LR 219

have happened with certainly a little more time, and I was critical of the introducers of the bill at that time and I will renew that criticism now as that was the proper time to adopt this amendment. Secondly, the other frustration is that, as Senator Hall had mentioned, basically the business community, primarily the corporate community who loves LB 1063, loves LR 219, or amendment one, and wants to spend a quarter to half a million dollars to get them...get those things passed, you know, they were certainly willing to solve a little problem by spending \$2 million a year in taxes but, as Senator Hall pointed out to Senator Landis, not for a long-term period of time, not at all, but at the same time when this state, you know, reversed the clock and reimposed at least partially the tax on personal property to re...make, set the record straight, so to speak, and to exempt sales tax property, there were many in this body, many in this state that felt, well, we can't...there's no way on earth we can let agriculture not get out from paying some more here. If we're going to give them a sales tax exemption, it must come from agriculture, that was very clear that that came from the administration as well as from any member of this floor, that's where it had to come from. And the business community, you know, at least finally in the last hour was willing to come up with a couple million dollars a year even though agriculture, from the beginning, spends eight to ten million dollars a year on conservative estimates, that's going to go nowhere but up, in my opinion, and in years to come it will continue to go up whereas this one goes away in two years. And so that's the frustration, the ongoing frustration I have with LB 1063, LR 219 and the basic problems I have from a fairness standpoint, but having said that in venting my frustrations with that process, Senator Landis's amendment is certainly proper. The Cash Fund reserve transfer has already occurred. This does pay that back. I think it's a relatively minuscule contribution to the business community to solve this whole problem and, as I have said time and time again, if they really wanted to pass LB 1063, they certainly should have and could have anted up to the table and solved our personal property tax problems much cleaner, much more efficiently and, in my opinion, much more permanently by doing something else. But, nevertheless, here's where we are. Senator Landis's amendment is in order and I rise to support it.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator. Next is Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield my time to