

November 11, 1992 LB 1

effect and to, at least in part, get this portion of the issue behind us and we continue to address the taxation and spending issues in a practice that will be good for the state. I keep hearing, you know, we spent too much. Senator Beutler and others have...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...talked about the comparison, but think about, every time you try to cut something or eliminate, how difficult it is, how difficult it is. It's difficult because those programs serve someone that is felt important. And I agree that we need tight security on appropriation growth.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time, Senator Warner. Thank you. Seeing no other lights on, Senator Lamb, do you wish to close?

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I guess I made the mistake of not withdrawing the amendment sooner. But I just want to read one sentence out of the World-Herald, the editorial that's been referred to, which I consider in error. It says LB 1 would reenact a stopgap tax bill that Nelson and the Legislature enacted for the 1991 tax year. See, it is not the same bill, it's not the same bill. That statement in the World-Herald is in error. And, you know, that's what everybody is saying, that it's the same bill, but it's not the same bill. And Senator Warner says those centrally assessed are not getting a tax break. It depends on what you're talking about, what you're comparing it to. Compared to 829 they are getting a tax break. Certainly, compared to the court decision they're not getting a tax break. But this Legislature attempted, through 829, to assess the fees, or the money, the taxes to those corporations which would most benefit from the elimination of property tax for one year. And so that's the reason the Legislature came up with the 4 percent surcharge for centr...for railroads, the pipelines, and the other centrally assessed corporations in 829. And then, of course, the court did throw it out. So if you start from the court decision, Senator Warner is correct. But if you start with LB 829, this is a \$5.5 million tax break over what this Legislature thought those companies deserved. So that's still a problem for me. With that, Mr. Chairman, I would withdraw the motion.

SPEAKER BAACK: It is withdrawn. I would like to introduce a special guest of the Legislature today. Under the south balcony