

Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, again, the purpose of this is to expand or rather the categories by, one, which would be the 250 jobs, 100 million of investment. From my viewpoint, that is significant, the higher the investment per job, I think it tends to generate the likelihood at least of better jobs. There's two criteria that I think are important to look at on incentives, neither of which is in statute anywhere at the moment, but, personally, I think there ought to be a cap on the amount of money that we would use in public investment for jobs, per job. It's a difficult thing to arrive at but, in my opinion, that would be appropriate policy; certainly I would never see justifying the kind of public investment in jobs that we've seen in some other states where it runs three or four hundred thousand. My understanding of the figures that I have seen since 775 comes up, as I recall, runs in the vicinity of 50 or 60,000, somewhere in there. This would be less than that, including the benefits they might have from 775, so I would urge...ask the body to adopt this kind of category. I would also tend to agree that as we go down these routes, inevitably they are asked to apply to other companies. That choice was essentially made, from my viewpoint, a number years ago, in fact, it was made before 775 was enacted, as we began to adopt various incentives, many of which I opposed, but nevertheless we did. We started down the road, I don't think there's an option at this point, but to follow down through that road. The one thing that's a saving grace in all this, from my viewpoint, on 829 and that is that we do have a formula which has to be used to justify the approval of any of these applications that is, in fact, a financial cash benefit to the state over the period of evaluation, which is 15 years for ten years worth of incentives and if that's not positive and that number becomes a public number, if that's not positive, then the approval should not and under the statute could not be granted, and I think that's a significant step that's different than what we've had in the past. So I would ask the body to adopt this amendment for this additional category that would qualify.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Warner. You've heard the closing. The question is the adoption of the Warner amendment to LB 829. All in favor vote aye, opposed no. We're voting on the Warner amendment. Have you all voted? We're voting on the Warner amendment. Have you all voted? Senator Warner.