

brought LB 582 forth this year...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...with a...to attempt to avoid, to escape the sunset that was going to doom it. And that was the policy of the Legislature, and I think what we're doing is making a policy decision here as to where these funds will be utilized. And I, again, oppose the Wickersham amendment, support the original Robin...underlying Robinson amendment.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Janssen, on the Wickersham amendment.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Madam President, thank you, members. I rise in opposition of the Wickersham amendments. You know grants, as far as I can see, or realize, grant money would be used for this money, which we are talking about, in the Energy Fund, would not come from property tax, it comes from sales and income tax, if I have the process right. Noninterest bearing loans, if we loan the money for the Internet to the schools, that would eventually come from property tax then. So if we're serious, if we're serious about reducing property tax, this is a good way to do it. Actually that money would be put into the fund for the Internet and it would be money that has come from sales and income tax. If I'm wrong, please have someone straighten me out on this. And the 1059, it would upset that...if it would upset the process on 1059, you would get this grant, I'm assuming, for just one year. So it may make a change in the formula for one year. The Weatherization Fund is due to sunset anyway. And it looks to me like we're trying to protect, in another agency, try to keep some jobs afloat. The way I understand it, this is what we're trying to do is make government more efficient by eliminating some of these positions. As far as I'm concerned I kind of like the Robinson amendment the way it is. I'd just as soon we'd leave it alone. So therefore I am going to be opposing, for what it's worth, the Wickersham amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, I've spoken to the NSEA and the school boards. The school boards said they've had two calls on this, the NSEA said they didn't have any calls on this. And Senator Beutler talks about the way