

clearly as I can, so that we all understand what's going on. The only thing that Section 2 deals with is the sunset. Under current law, the Weatherization Fund would terminate on June 30th, 1996. My amendment would eliminate the sunset provision so that the Weatherization Fund would continue past that date. Okay, Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. I have been able to recreate a bit on the history of this issue and I will try and run through it quickly. It was in '81 that we passed the bill establishing the fund, but we had a sunset in 1986 to see how it would work. It worked very well. We said our return on investment was in the range of 16 percent of the money we spent in terms of savings to the schools, and what-have-you, versus the money going to the Permanent School Fund, where the return on investment was more like 8 percent. So we doubled our money in terms of return on investment, and the program in '85 was continued and the sunset was placed in 1996, and also the actual funding for it ended in 1990, so that the severance tax no longer went into this fund, but went into the Permanent School Fund, and then a revolving loan fund was set up to perpetuate itself into the future. So that is a quick history. Now jumping forward to 1995 and the fact that we have a '96 sunset, it seems to me, again, back to Senator Beutler's point, that there is a program evaluation that is supposed to be undertaken here, and it appears to me that hastily moving forward and eliminating the program without that evaluation doesn't make sense, and to me we ought to continue the program until such time as an evaluation proves that it is not working the way it should. And although we have had allusion to it, and some reference to it, I haven't actually seen any factual basis on which to judge that we are not having the return on investment or the effect that we want to have with the program. So I would support the Beutler amendment and encourage you to support it as well. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Wesely. And did you yield any time, Senator Wesely, or was that the end? Thank you. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I stand to oppose the Beutler amendment, and this is the part that has to do with the not sunseting the weatherization, and I...we'd end up with I guess around six and a half or seven million dollars. I guess my concern is, what do we do with the \$200,000 that we spend on administration of this fund after that? And it