

finance, which I also believe is an important endeavor. I will support Senator Beutler's amendment and I would urge the members to do the same. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Mr. Speaker and members, I think it is important for some of us to stand up and, like Senator Brashear and others, indicate why we are trying to accomplish with this throwback tax. In my district I happen to have a company that is a very important part of our community. It has been there for absolutely years. They've expanded for years. They travel around the world playing music, in fact, make records and have great concerts at Christmas in our community. Now they've never really profited from any of the economic development efforts we've had in the past in any significant degree, or if at all. They never complain to me about the tax they pay in this state. They are a good, good company, and good corporate citizens. We were talking about this issue and they simply mentioned to me that they have been expanding, and have been expanding for years in their present location in my district, but they are in a position now with more expansions that they have to look at the opportunities as it applies in other communities. And in that particular case, then the throwback tax is a very relevant and an important issue. I think almost all the companies we are looking at, with maybe one exception, are smaller companies, less than 100 employees. All of our economic development efforts, for the most part in the past, has involved agriculture, and in the present time as it involves corporations and industry, of course, have not included these kinds of companies. We have to think about being fair with these kinds of companies as well. But I wanted to make sure you understood that they never complained. I never was threatened that they would, in fact, move if they didn't get the throwback tax, and I appreciate that very much. I don't know about some of you, but I sat in on a lunch once, with Senator Hall and some others, where we were told by a very large corporation president that, in fact, they wouldn't build their plant and he would move his people and his money and everybody out of the state if we didn't get 775. We know the difference between threats and what we have to do with legislation to be fair. We are not doing this at all for any reason other than it's the right thing to do, and it's most timely at this point in time. It is hard for us to compete in a lot of ways. We have to keep what we have, and we have to do what we can for those that have been faithful and