

occasionally. But I don't think government has the luxury of acting in that fashion, and I always thought that was one of the defects of LB 829. So when 1368 came along and proposed to change that system for one company, I said, oh yes, I am more than willing to change that because I think it ought to be changed for all companies. And in that respect it ought to look just like 775. First, you qualify for the credits, and then you claim the credits and you get the refunds if the Department of Revenue determines that you are indeed eligible for the credits. And you should claim those credits on your corporate income tax or the other return that's appropriate so that you can take advantage of them. It reverses the process so that we get our dollars, the qualifying company gets them, once they've proven that they're eligible for them and that they've been used for an appropriate purpose. That system makes far more sense to me than the one that we passed in LB 829. And it certainly makes sense to me that we should have one unified system, not two systems. There was some discussion... And having one system, I guess, has a couple of other benefits. One, there was a discussion in the Revenue Committee whether or not we needed to adjust 1368, because there was a concern about whether or not you could claim more credits or less credits under 829, as it was adopted last year, or under 1368 in the structure that it proposed to put in place this year. Everybody says, well it's close, it's close. But there may be some variation and there's no one who can guarantee to us that there will not be variations, so why should there be two different systems? The only answer that I've really gotten to the issue of why there should be two systems is one that I think is a bit peculiar, and that is that if we have companies that want to qualify for the 829 credits and they have to claim them on their corporate income tax return, they will never get them because they don't expect to pay corporate income tax, and they never expect to have anything to claim a credit against. They never expect to have any corporate income tax, they never expect to be able to claim the credit. So if you reduce them to having to claim the credit on their corporate income tax, they will never get anything. Well, ladies and gentlemen, why are we extending the benefits of 829 to them if they...we never expect them to pay anything back? It seemed to me kind of a weak rationale. I'm assured that the Union Pacific is a good, profitable company and that they will have no trouble using any credits that might be earned and extended to them under 1368. Fine, I agree, do it. But I can't see extending credits to companies that might not