

going to leave, sure, we'll give you whatever that you want. You can't have it both ways. Senator Wesely made the comment that the state has already lost over \$1 billion in tax incentives...or will lose \$1 billion. I think he said we're already there. And that's just what the actual dollars that are lost to this state. What about all of the local property taxes that those companies don't pay to schools, to everything else? Who picks up that difference? The local taxpayers do. They're complaining about their...my taxes are too high, my property tax is too high, and yet you have these large corporations that come in and spend millions of dollars, pay very little property tax; their employees do, but not the actual companies; and that again has to be passed on to the wage earner. We'll do anything in this state to help large corporations, to keep them, and you know, we do need companies. I have no problem with that. But when every state in this country started these tax incentives, it was one of the worst things that ever happened to the states. They didn't have to do it, but once one started, then everybody got in that same step and, well, if you don't come to my state, I'm going to lose so I'll give you a tax incentive. We're going down a bad, bad street. It's going to have to end sometime because these large corporations are using one state against the other, and the states are not gaining at it because most of these companies were going to expand anyway. When we debated LB 775 years ago, back in '87 the first year I was here, I opposed that bill, and I go back to my district today and people say that's one of the best votes you ever made because it's something that we didn't need. It has nothing but cost us additional money, additional taxes. I don't support LB 1368. It's going to pass, but I think...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: ...I think this body has to realize that eventually not only the state but local government has to be...we have to come forward and say, we have to put a stop to this. It can't keep going. States can no longer afford to keep doing this. The average taxpayer out there, the wage earner, makes up that difference. So although the bill is going to pass, I will not support it. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Schellpeper. Senator Maurstad.