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around comes around, hopefully he does. With that, I will leave you with I am opposing Senator Beutler's amendment. I think we should...we should put our money where our mouth is and respect and appreciate what we have in this state and keep this at 100 percent, as the bill calls for. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Vrtiska, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I just wanted to bring one point that I think needs to be stressed and I don't know if it's been talked about that much, but by reducing this down and not encouraging people to come in, we'll find out that probably, as we've seen in the past, more of these armories will be closed. Once they're closed, they're gone, and then we'll turn around a few years and find out we need some more people in the National Guard, we'll be building new armories, and we'll spend more money than this bill will cost us, and I think we have to keep that in perspective. There is a cost. You know, several of these armories have been closed the past several years because of the lack of strength in the areas where they served. One down in my area was closed and so it's a case of maybe being pound wise and...or penny wise and pound foolish when we end up spending more money to, in fact, build some new facilities when once the strength builds back up. And it probably will, as somebody indicated, in a time of lesser...the money is not so easily available and people start to look at ways to find employment. They will again be joining the National Guard. When they do, we are going to have to rebuild those facilities to accommodate them. So I think we have to keep that in mind when we talk about how much it's going to cost or how much it's going to save. So I just thought I should put that point out because I think that's an important part of this whole discussion about the level that we want to support for this particular bill, and I also will oppose the Beutler amendment based on that premise, if nothing else. With that, thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Cudaback, on the Beutler amendment. Senator Cudaback, you want to speak on the bill. Senator Schmitt, on the Beutler amendment.