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LB 880

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. It seems to me that since I got here a couple of years ago the one constant is the tap dance that we do to alleviate the effects of 1114. Which cat has his tail caught under a rocker now? I rise in opposition to Amendment 1609 because, in my view, it is nothing more than a sneaky way of having someone who has a little room on its levy to raise the taxpayers outgo. If 1114 is as badly flawed as everybody in this Chamber has voted on, we should attack the problem. We shouldn't be doing it by constantly robbing Peter to pay Paul. I give the rest of my time to Senator Wickersham, who'll probably say just the opposite of what I just said.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Did you say Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR TYSON: I'm sorry, Senator Wehrbein, the good looking one.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: I thought you pointed to Senator Wehrbein but you said...

SENATOR TYSON: It was the good looking one, Mr. Speaker.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm punched in a little later, and Senator Tyson gave me some time, and thank you. I will tell you, frankly, this is a tough decision. The committee voted 6 to 3 to do it the way it is in the bill at this point. And I think there was a little...some ambivalence, probably, in that decision, and whether it is a huge issue is really up to you in terms of whether it's counties or natural resource districts. I would call your attention to the last page that Senator Wickersham talked about, Attachment C of the handout that he handed out, that does give the impact on NRDs. So I guess, frankly, depends on your viewpoint as to which entity should have additional money, if you will. But the committee did vote 6 to 3 to keep it like it is at this point in the present law with the additional 1.6 million going to NRDs. With that, I think I'll quit.