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LB 271

SENATOR LANDIS: ...while in the private sector the money goes to an exempt...I'm sorry, to all political subdivisions, here part of it will go back to the political subdivision that sponsors the lease to reduce its take at the property tax level, and in addition...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...some other money in payment of lieu of taxes to other political subdivisions. That is hardly competition on an unequal basis.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Would you please hold your conversations down, please, so we can hear on the floor? Thank you. Senator Smith, followed by Senator Wickersham, Senator Bromm, Senator Chris Peterson, Senator Raikes, and Senator Byars on the last amendment, 1492, to 271. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President, members. And thank you, Senator Landis. I think you brought up some great points in terms of the fair market value and level playing field. And some issues were raised earlier in the fact that officials would get together and make a deal. I can understand where that might be coming from, but the fact is, several plans for payment in lieu of taxes already exist, and I think that if there were back room deal making occurring with that, those could be challenged sufficiently. I believe that we want to deter government from competing with the private sector, and this amendment, the payments in lieu of taxes provision, would still deter governments from competing with the private sector. If Senator Raikes would yield for a couple of questions.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you yield?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Raikes, you mentioned that these private leases on public land...say, for example, that I keep referring to, farmland at an airport facility...that lease is not a level playing field. How would you determ...I mean, what makes you say that?