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LB 881

to say that to the state so that property tax relief takes on realistic boundaries and dimensions, rather than the overpromising which we have become party to or have tacitly allowed to continue and have used on occasion, when politics has required us to do so, to defend our...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...prerogatives by fighting such things as Initiative 413. I support LB 881.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Landis. Members, if I could suggest again that you take your conversations off the floor out of respect to your colleagues. Speaking list is Senator Brown, Senator Dwite Pedersen, Senator Raikes, Schimek, Beutler, Tyson, and Kristensen. Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I...I listened very closely to what Senator Landis said and I supported LB 881 as it was originally introduced for two reasons and those reasons really did not have to do with the overpromising or what...some of the things that Senator Landis spoke about, but what I think the first reason which I agree with, with Senator Crosby and with something that Senator Kristensen said in the opening, his opening about what this bill will not do, and that is that the critical piece is the perception by individuals that they are getting property tax relief. And that it has to be something that is apparent, that is tangible, and I think that the amendment takes that piece completely out of the picture. And I think that that's unfortunate because I think that what we have been dealing with in terms of dealing with...with the public is their perception of what we've done. Senator Kristensen went through the entire list of all the things that we have done to address property taxes, but it is not perceived as having made a difference to the individuals who pay the taxes and who vote, and somehow we need to engage them in what we are doing, that they understand that it is for them. And so the original part of 881 I believe addressed that critical component. I think that the committee amendment has totally lost that very critical aspect, and so I am struggling to find out whether there is something in it that's enough to keep me on board. For me, the other critical