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LB 105

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Beutler, on part 6, which is FA244 to LB 105. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Brown gets some really hard bills. In the past, on several child support amendments, she would point to the federal government bills, she would point to the federal government and say, they made me do it, they made me do it. And I'd look at the law and say, yeah, they're making you do it, (laugh) Senator. So I'd follow along, like a little kid after the Pied Piper, and we would do all of these things. But this is not one that the federal government is making us do. In fact, I think a lot of the federal government rules and regulations relating to parts of this program are not yet in place, if I'm reading the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 correctly. And so timing wise it might make better sense if we did this next year, when we know a little bit more about exactly what the federal government is coming down with. I was curious about her remark that the federal government is not providing the support it used to provide, and that the federal government is not providing that support because they've discovered that they've created impoverished neighborhoods, that's why they're not providing support anymore. But that doesn't really answer the question, does it? If mixed use, mixing low-income with higher income, and mixing low-income with commercial is the answer, then why isn't the federal government supporting that? Instead of taking away the funds, why isn't the federal government shifting the funds into that at the same rate? Or is it that the federal government really kind of believes that this asset-owning endeavor is so ripe for abuse, because they've seen it all over the place, and so unworkable, that they're really reverting back to the more traditional forms of assistance that have worked better. And that this model bill represents a last gasp effort on the parts of those who see this funding disappearing to come up with some sorts, some variety of leveraging mechanisms so that they can stay in business and make all this work. I think that's a legitimate question to ask. And, I guess, I would invite Senator Brown's response to why the federal government is taking away these funds?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Was that a question, Senator Beutler?