

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office

April 11, 2000 LB 1107

know how that is so he's not in this equation. The Legislature really is the policymaking body of the state. We set the policy. The things we spend money for, the amounts of money we spend all contribute to the establishment of that policy. The executive branch, just like the word suggests, is to execute or carry out the laws that we enact, but the Governor seems to misunderstand that term "execute". He thinks of it in the sense of killing. When we say "execute" we mean carrying out...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...or enforcing. And we know that the judiciary is not a part of what we're talking about here today. There is a tension between the executive and the legislative branches and there ought to be, but sometimes a line that separates good judgment and good governance from bad judgment and bad governance can be crossed, and I think the Governor has done it in several instances. But in this one instance I think he did not and this exception proves the rule.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Bohlke, on the motion to override.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Seems to me, and I stated this on a radio show that a number of us do when we report the week in the Legislature, when we had this bill before, on that radio show I said that I thought we had missed an opportunity, an opportunity to pass legislation that protects those who pay property taxes, in the original form that Senator Wickersham introduced the bill, and that was at 45 percent. Said I wasn't sure that many people understood the significance of it. I still supported it at 47 percent, but I remember that some of the arguments seemed to be that this was more for a rural benefit than an urban, and that simply is not true. Because what it does is it does offer that protection to property tax payers by saying that statewide you will pay no more than 47 percent of property taxes, and with valuations going up that is very, very important. The other thing Senator Wickersham stated that is also very important is it does stabilize the amount we appropriate for state aid and through property tax. Those two things, those two things are so very important I think for all of us to consider. Because every year