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FLOOR DEBATE

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Senator Janssen, Senator Schrock. Senator Erdman.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, here's what I think is inappropriate. What I think is inappropriate is that we have a process that is not being implemented for the first time here. We have amended bills today on Final Reading with another bill or another idea repeatedly already, so the only inappropriate one that we're doing today is mine. I know that's not Senator Bourne's intention. I know that's not his comments. Could be perceived that way. But the idea is, is that evidently the issues that were before us today aren't life shattering, aren't that big of a deal, so let's not make a fuss over those; let's make a fuss over this. Am I standing here today telling you that what we're proposing under AM1033 is just clean-up in nature? No, I'm not. But I am standing here today to tell you this. This is no different than any other process that we have implemented here on any other bill. Now here's...let me share the realities. If you don't trust me, that's one thing. That's fine. But here's the situation. Our process is you return for a specific amendment. Here's the specific amendment. You vote it up or down. You vote it down, there might be other amendments. Who knows? And at the end of the day, if we don't have this bill, we don't have any options with Game and Parks down the road. Fine. But I'll share this with you. If you would like to come back and say, you know what, we'd like to strike the boat education out of it, I'll work with you. Senator Schrock, I'm sure, will sit down and we can talk about it. Understand, though, that the underlying bill isn't the greatest carrier in the world either. There are some concerns there too that might cause people not to vote for this bill or not. Those are already there. So let's talk about what it is that we're asking here. We're asking for changes to the Boat Act as far as where registration fees are spent. Right now, we can do boat education. There is no specific statutory authority for that boat registration dollar to help pay for that. You have to register your motorboat in the county that you live, regardless of where you use it. It's a problem in our state. You can jump a wake behind someone that is being towed. We've had individuals killed this year because of that law. We need to change it. There's a loophole in the number of individuals and