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LB 283

chart shown by the Revenue Committee was a column showing what LB 283 would look like if you simply adjusted for inflation. And when you look at those figures, you'll see they look very much like the green copy of the bill which Senator Landis said that he pulled out of...somewhere. But actually, it had a very good rationale, in that the green copy was close to what inflation would indicate that you would have if you simply adjusted for inflation. Then I added another column, showing what Senator Jensen's amendments percent...or the cent...the dollar amounts of his increases. So I don't know what you say. I mean, the Revenue Committee certainly has to take into account what happens in other states. They certainly are at the high end. I think if there's one thing this chart shows you, and indicating that with the committee amendment, we're way behind keeping up with inflation. And other states, obviously, haven't kept up with inflation either, which indicates that the liquor lobby in all these states in the Midwest have done a wonderful, wonderful job for their clients of keeping the taxes on alcohol down at the local level. So I guess we need to discuss how we break out of that debilitating and draining cycle that we're in. Because as these taxes decrease in terms of their purchasing power, we're able to do less and less. And in fact, they're winning the war here. That's what's happening. So how do we break out of this? I'm very interested in this discussion. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. You know, one thing about term limits that I think is really going to affect the body is the fact that if you stop to think about that a little bit, that when you come in as a new senator, if you're looking for somebody to mentor you, you're looking at somebody who's going to have been here four years. Big deal. When I came into the body some nine years ago, I looked around, and there are individuals that I really looked at as somebody that I would like to use as a mentor. And Senator Landis was one of those, and I appreciate those people who have been here with a great amount of time. Senator Beutler, Senator Hartnett, and many of the others that have spent some time here. And I certainly think that that's going to be a great flaw when