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LB 285

are still being hurt by what we're about to do if we have to continue to make these kind of cuts. And with that, Mr. President, I thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Landis, on the Redfield amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, in her introduction, I think Senator Redfield said, with a little note of begrudging in the voice, it seemed to me, well, LB 285 is honest. Yeah, it's true. And you know, that's a virtue. That's a virtue, saying, we need the money, and we're going to set the taxes where we need them to set the taxes. Because here's what I think we ought to do. I think we ought to raise taxes when we need them and I think we ought to lower them when we've got the money to lower them. And what we can't tell is, two years ahead of time, which situation it's going to be. I think you raise them when you need them and you've convinced yourself you've got to have them, and you lower them when you can. And if that's two years from now, lower the rates. By the way, I'd lower the sales tax rate first. I think the sales tax rate is more anticompetitive than the income tax, in my estimation. So if I get ahead...if I get money ahead, that's where I think we ought to lower our rates. But couple the fact that I think it says it is honest, with what I think are the triggering mechanisms for tax decisions--raise them when you need them, and lower them when you've got more money than you need or when you've got the money to do so. And when we do, we should do it. Are the cuts that we've made all limited? No. If I get the university's story, they've closed the museum. They didn't say close the museum for a year. They didn't say close it for two years. They didn't say close it for two years, then open it to see if we've got the money to make it work. They said close it. Now, there may be a time when they've got enough money to reopen it. But it's not set at two years from today, or one year from today. It's going to be set, I believe, when they've got the money to do so. We closed down the Rural Development Commission. We didn't say, let's do it for two years and then bring it back up to speed and then see if we've got the money. We closed it. Status of...the Commission on the Status of Women, what we didn't say is let's close it for a year