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LB 287

reached out to try to control property taxes. We have reached out in a multiplicity of ways involving state aid, involving levy caps, involving budget limitations. All of you who have been here for awhile are familiar with all the different techniques and tools we've tried to use to mitigate or to keep property taxes in control, and that has been...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...successful. To the extent that the degree to which we rely on property taxes as a percentage of our total tax base in this state, it is...it has declined in favor of relying much more on income tax and much more on sales tax. Now to the extent that the...and for my part, that's not an expenditure problem. I want to do that and I want to continue to do that. We cut back, switching back to the revenue side of the problem, at the same time we cut back again, I want to repeat, we cut back the income tax. That's a revenue problem. We had that revenue problem. We gave up that revenue. So that's a revenue side problem, from my perspective. And then there are things other than property tax on the expenditure side, such as the prison system, and over the years we've increased these penalties. That has become a very significant problem, but the people have demanded that we increase these penalties so we have more people in prison. Special education, the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...federal government has not taken up its share of that expenditure, and there's more and more. And next time I want to talk about why the people infrastructure is important.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Beutler. Thank you, Senator Beutler. The issue direct before the body is AM1710, offered by the Revenue Committee to LB 287. Senator Kremer, on the Revenue Committee amendments.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members of the body, it seems like we're constantly having to stand up in