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LB 759

SENATOR BEUTLER: Let me just...

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Now, but I'm not...you know, I'm not blind...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Sure.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...and deaf and dumb. I see what the body is doing and what it tends to favor and doesn't favor. And so I've tried to calculate what might be able to be accommodated if it be the will of the majority.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Let me state what I understood to be your ultimate purpose in forming this one package philosophy. Because to the extent that this would not be true, I would begin to have reservations. It's my understanding that this package is intended to substantially fund the Appropriations Committee packet of \$355 million. Now, what you have here is \$342 million, which is somewhat short of that, but not disastrously short, in my opinion. My problem is going to be, if you...if this bill drops in its overall total dollar amount by another 10 or 15 million or more, then I would be of the opinion we ought not to advance this bill. Because I don't want a bill going forward that would leave us in the position of having a bill adopted that had \$300 million, for example, in revenue in it, and having that approved by the Governor, and then be in a position where we have to pass a second revenue bill, a small revenue bill, in order to fund the Appropriations Committee packet. So I just wanted to indicate that if this dollar amount drops, ...let me ask you this. Should this dollar amount drop substantially, would you be favorable to an additional income tax amount that would make up for whatever amount was deducted?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: This is an interesting negotiation. (Laughter) Senator Beutler, of course "substantially" is a relative term. And one never wants to indicate where one would go until one is forced to go there. And I am not at this time, nor do I anticipate in the reasonable future that I would be inclined toward what I call...