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LB 759

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

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Bromm, I'd waive for the moment.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you. Senator Beutler waives. Senator Don Pederson.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I stand in support of the amendment. And I want to compliment both Senator Brashear and Senator Landis for putting things in a package that will get at the concerns of the Appropriations Committee. We're coming very close to being able to accomplish things. But we're starting to do something else. And this is what I would call your attention to, and I commend this to you. And that is that we are starting to do things to expand the base upon which we assert taxes. I know when we first started talking about repair labor, I think my e-mail machine was jammed up with all the messages I got from contractors. And I understand their concern. They say, why single me out? But I think that we have to begin to accomplish a broadening of our base, or we're going to continue to have the problems we have had with the feast and famine approach. I think that we're expanding it to the point where we're going to have problems. Anything that you do new and different is going to have its set of problems. Does this solve everybody's concern? No. Is it a good beginning? Yes. And I think that we need to respect it for that purpose. Are there...I think there are going to be questions about this. But there would be questions about any new tax matter. How is that going to work in application? But I think we need to look at a broader picture. And if there are problems in connection with these matters, we can resolve those problems. We can come back and we can correct anything that becomes a deficiency in the program. But let's don't be blinded by the smaller matters that are involved in this. Let's look at the bigger picture and say that today we have to begin to put something together that is a package that can be presented as a revenue total. And I think that this is beginning to accomplish that. And I urge your approval of this. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Brashear.