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other agencies out there who can make the same argument in another way to not have to pay taxes on what they may think is important to them. So the list goes on and on and all of a sudden we're back to where we were before we came here, and that's we're in bad shape. So I guess I leave the final word, and I am, at this point, until we can get some kind of a measure of...some measure of fairness, I'm not going to support Senator Preister's amendment, not because I don't think...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR VRTISKA: ...not because I don't think what he's saying is correct and certainly needs to be attended to, but on the other hand I've got...we've got to, at the same time, figure out how we're going to cover our shortfall. With that, thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Chambers, on the Preister amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, obviously I support Senator Preister's amendment. What we're looking at is a set of circumstances this session different from what has happened in other sessions. We're getting two bites at the apple. I cannot complain about that. If there was a measure that I supported and I lost it at one point, I certainly would like another opportunity at another point without having to move to reconsider and all the other parliamentary maneuvers that may be necessary. My philosophy swirls around a comment that I make from time to time: the king cobra wastes no venom on dead things or fleeing things. As a matter of fact, no serpent, no venomous creature wastes its venom on dead things. It is for the purpose of acquiring food or defense, but not just to show that it has it. Senator Landis has a bill from which we stripped these costs, this tax. Senator Brashear has a bill which still has the tax. To me, from the position I hold, this tax in Senator Brashear's bill is the venom that renders it moribund. I'm not going to have to have too much to say at this point, because I'm going to watch what my colleagues do, but I would advise those who want to get a bill through this session to mark well what they do and consider the consequences of their