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LB 608

more power to us. I think that's what we need to do in tough times, is provide more jobs in those communities for those people who are struggling in the rural area. So I think this is a good amendment and I am going to support it and then I will support the underlying LB 608 or the amendment, Senator Bromm's amendment to LB 608. With that, thank you, and I'll turn the rest of my time back to the Chair, Madam Chairman.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. The next speaker is Senator Landis. And this is your third time, Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Oh.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: You are recognized to speak, Senator.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. I told Senator Beutler that I would, if he files his motion to lay this over for a day. There are a lot of questions that you have. I get that. I'll do my best to answer them. Senator Bromm will as well. I don't want to get this chipped away at. I'm going to argue generally that it was written by Al Wenstrand with the best of intentions and then...and doing as best we can. In the end, I'm comfortable with where we are right now. The pieces that are in LB 608 that get jettisoned are a mixed bag from my perspective and I think we can do better by starting over, frankly, and the pieces that are left I think make eminent sense. First, getting rid of a program that doesn't "incent" anything, that costs us \$4 million a year, and to create a genuine rural program that has incentive power that costs \$2.5 million a year, both of those make eminent sense to me which is why I'm comfortable with the Bromm amendment. But I oppose the Smith amendment and I will oppose, generally, other amendments that would wind up changing the shape of this if we can keep, you know, if it's possible that we can keep it together. If the body wants to do something else, of course, they're not bound by anything we do or say, but generally speaking I think this is a good result. Get rid of a program that's costly and doesn't do us anything, and replace it with a cheaper program that does better. That should make sense to all of us.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Mr. Clerk.