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LB 283

trying to make their job harder or put them on the hot seat. The job is deciding the public policy and every Legislature should do that, and the policy change that we make should be in force until the circumstances "foreseeably" change. The problem is we don't know that the money will go down, or that we'll have the money to do this in 2007. We've planned out to the bienniums that we have, and we've planned for those bienniums. Was that a mistake? I don't think so.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: When we have the means or when we can foresee the means, drop the taxes. But when you don't even know that's the case, then don't let the dead hand of one Legislature reach out and make another Legislature's life more difficult. Our job is tough enough as it is. Spend the money you have and don't spend the money that you don't have. Cut back taxes when you can, when you've got the means. When a tax cut is better than spending on other social programs, cut the taxes. That's our job. It's called legislation. The Brown amendment reaches out to another Legislature and tells them how to do their job. That's a mistake. Trust them. Don't make their job harder. You were trusted by laws given to you. When I came to the Legislature, we had tax rates and I've passed bills that lowered tax rates twice.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time. Thank you, Senator Landis. The issue before the body is the Brown amendment, AM1975, to LB 283. Those wishing to speak are Senators Baker, Brown, Vrtiska, Tyson. Senator Baker, on that motion.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. Senator Landis and I are going to differ on this because if I had the understanding that we didn't have term limits taking effect in that Legislature that's elected in 2006, I'd feel a lot more comfortable. He's saying trust that Legislature. They aren't going to have gone through the pain we have cutting programs. They don't have the institutional knowledge that's going to walk out this place in 2006 and not come back, and Senator Landis is one of those people, providing a lot of institutional knowledge--this is how we got here; this is what