

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

May 27, 2003

LB 283

four, five. I do see five hands. The question is, shall debate cease on the Brown amendment, AM1975, to LB 283? All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Voting on ceasing debate on the Brown amendment, AM1975, which is an amendment to LB 283. Motion is to cease debate. Have you all voted who care to? Have you all voted? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful to cease debate. Senator Brown, you're recognized to close on your amendment, AM1975, to LB 283.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, members, I agree with a lot of what has been said. I think that we have to make decisions in light of the circumstances. I think that we are supposed to leave things in fiscally the best circumstance that we can. That doesn't necessarily mean that there is any guarantee. This amendment does not prohibit a reinstatement by a new group of individuals and I have said nothing about mistrusting that group of individuals. I think that their going through the same process that I have gone through this year is very healthy and will make them understand the choices and make them be able to argue. I can argue this year very strongly that I have done the right thing and will continue to do the right thing. I believe that the choices that we're presented, that there was a clear answer and I think that we have arrived there. I'm not doing this to hide, to say that somehow I'm not raising taxes. I voted to raise taxes. I will vote to override the veto on the tax increase. I will vote for the spending plan, which I've already voted for. This is not in any way to say to people that I'm not responsible for what I did. I'm proud to say I'm responsible for what I did and it was only through going through the painful process that this year was that I am able to say that. And I don't think that I'm doing anything bad to those people in four years from now to let them go through the process and figure out what their choices are and figure out what their priorities are and then fund those priorities. This is not, as it's been referred to as, an artificial hammer. This is more like a foam...one of those foam bats. It's not going to even hurt anybody. It's...it is just an opportunity to revisit all