

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

May 27, 2003

LB 759

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Landis. Senator Landis waives his opportunity to talk. Senator Stuthman.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Originally, parts of this LB 759 I was not in total agreement with. I did put an amendment on it to try to remove that tax, sales tax on labor for remodeling. I did...I was not successful with that amendment, but I am going to be supporting the override, and mainly it is because I think we have to work together as a body. If the majority of the people, you know, wanted this, the majority of the people wanted to go along with my amendment it would have got passed, but I did not get the support. So I think one of the things about government is a lot of people say do not raise my taxes, do not raise my taxes. The response I give to that is, first of all, you tell me which service you're willing to give up; not the service of other people or what they're receiving, that we should cut theirs; what you as an individual are willing to give up. When the constituents can bring that to me then I can tell them how much we can cut, but if they're not willing to give anything up and want continued service, I guess we do have to raise taxes. I was not originally, like I just commented, originally in total agreement with this, but as a member of this body I think it's the right thing to do at the present time. In the future, I hope that I can come up with something where we can possibly change something around or replace the revenue that would be generated from this tax on the reconstruction labor of personal property. So with that, thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Janssen, the motion to override.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members of the Legislature, it's very painful to do what we're doing. I haven't spoke on this yet or the prior override. No one likes a tax increase, but, boy, we sure love the decreases. You know, we got ourselves into this situation about ten years ago when things were looking up. We were coming out of a small recession, not quite as bad as the one we're in right now, but