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FLOOR DEBATE

February 3, 2004 LB 32, 698

committee amendment should be adopted. It's not an onerous system. Look at it. Listen to it. And if it's not adopted, by golly, let's get ourselves on record. I want to see who's in favor of increasing property taxes. But we shouldn't be reversing our direction. We shouldn't be reversing it on this bill; we shouldn't be reversing it on LB 698. And there may be some things we have to do temporarily.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But this isn't one of them. This has a logical and good alternative, and that is a storm water fee that's been compromised already beyond what it should have been compromised. And that's not a criticism of the Chair of the committee. He's doing his best. He's doing his level best. But you got to help him. You can't let this happen. It's the wrong direction. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Hartnett, on part one of the divided question.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, members. Senator Schrock, could I ask you some questions, if I could?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, I'll answer some questions.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Senator Schrock, when you started opening on this amendment, or this bill, this was a...you say it was a federal mandate?

SENATOR SCHROCK: Yes, it is, Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: And I think you also said it's...you said it was a, quote, good federal mandate?

SENATOR SCHROCK: I think we all agree that we want clean water. And we know the situation in Omaha is not the best. We've got the mixing of the sewage and storm water, and in certain types of vents there's some discharge into the river. I think we all