

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

February 3, 2004 LB 32, 279A, 323, 449, 449A, 511, 559, 559A

have seen the light. And maybe we needed the discussion this morning. If anybody wants to meet with me tomorrow morning, I'll be in my office. I extend that invitation, to a group or anybody. I will vote for the committee amendments. But then if that fails, do you vote for this amendment that's pending now? We need to do something. But if it fails, then what? I don't know where we go. I can tell you that Minnesota, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, and Wyoming have established fees. South Dakota has some kind of a property tax. Minnesota has dedicated a sales tax. I can tell you that states of Texas, Virginia, and Washington are...have been litigated against. And in most cases, I don't think the outcome has been too pleasant for the states. If the federal government...if we have a suit brought against us, I think this will be more expensive. Senator Stuthman, I told you before, there is nothing I detest more than property taxes. And I did vote against lowering sales taxes one year. Two of us voted against it. But I don't know where to go on this. If you want to raise state sales and income taxes and help these cities out with this issue, that's fine. I've got another property tax bill coming up for the NRDs, and that's to cost-share on water funding, water studies. That probably won't be a tax on our urban areas. But if you live in an area where irrigation water is an issue, you're probably going to have a higher property tax to help fund these water studies to find out what's going on underneath the ground, so we know how to manage our water. So hey, I'm with you. Let's go with this.

SPEAKER BRÖMM: One minute.

SENATOR SCHROCK: A lot of money will have been spent to defeat this. And that...I'd get some joy out of that, I'd get some joy out of that, I'd get some personal satisfaction out of that. So I...let's give this a try. But if it doesn't happen, then we've got to go back to the property tax. And like I said, you don't want to know the outcome if we don't do anything, because I think it's grave and I think it's real.

SPEAKER BRÖMM: Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Mr. President, Enrollment and Review reports LB 559, LB 559A, LB 449, LB 449A, LB 323, LB 511, LB 279A to Select