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have been presented. I did want to take a moment out, as is our custom, to talk about the general picture, and not even this year, but moving into future years. We really need to take a look, in my opinion now, at restructuring LB 775. Recent research has indicated that comparing what we give in business incentives to our personal income, we are putting a much, much larger burden on our population than any other state does. Back in the early eighties, when I came into this Legislature, if memory serves me correctly, and I think it does, the total amount of business incentives that we gave out was a few million dollars. Since the late 1980s and through the 1990s, that has risen to \$100 million. That is a very significant chunk of money. And if we could restructure and refocus that incentive program to make it just as effective for a lot less money, and I'm beginning to think that we can do that if we put our minds to it without losing our competitive edge, if we could pull another \$40 million or \$50 million out of that and use more refocused efforts to the extent of \$50 million or \$60 million, that would be very helpful in terms of solving our budget problems, because that would be another \$40 million or \$50 million that we would have year in and year out to sustain ourselves. What I'm saying is, when people ask you, well, where is the money going, are you spending so much, well, you know, \$100 million is an absolutely new expenditure in the last decade and that's huge. It's not an expenditure, technically. It's a loss of revenue, so it doesn't show up anywhere. But everybody has to recognize that if we want to have business incentives on this scale, if we're going to be driven by the ratcheting up from state to state to compete in this area, that that saps our revenues, and either we have to give up a whole bunch of other expenditures or we have to make it up with additional revenues of some type simply to sustain the very functions of government that we've had ongoing in the eighties and nineties. So I just wanted to throw out that and hope that you all will start thinking about that and that maybe the Revenue Committee will start investigating that possibility, because I think our incentives are overbroad, unfocused, and draining us of too many resources. Thank you.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Raikes.