

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

March 22, 2004 LB 1093

can at least go that far with the...with our budget proposal. Just look at the blue sheet on page 7, you will see how deeply in the hole we are. And if you take away another \$100 million from that, take and add in the problem with the low-level, we're in serious problems and we can't just approach this in one year at a time basis. We have to look at this overall. I really wish that you would reconsider your vote in this and we can always keep it alive. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Jones, your light is next.

SENATOR JONES: Madam President and members of the body, I voted against this last time because I just continue to say that our property taxes just continue to go up and up and up, and 12.5 percent this last year, and it's really a concern. And this chart that Senator Beutler passed out, it sound...it looks like we're going back up on the property tax requirements, climbing back up the ladder. And I think I like what Senator Beutler said, that we need to move this on with the committee amendments and then we can be open on several things. Maybe there'd be another issue ready that we could come on the floor to talk about, and talk about the income tax side of it. Is Senator Hartnett on the floor? I'd just like to visit with him just a little bit on this.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Hartnett, are you on the floor? Here he comes.

SENATOR JONES: Yes, I would like to visit with Senator Hartnett just a little bit on the income tax side that he's talking about.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yes, Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Senator Hartnett, you talked about trying to maybe go back to '97 level with the income tax side of it. If you do that, would you do that if this is passed or would you consider it if it wasn't passed or where would you be on that?

SENATOR HARTNETT: I think, like Senator Beutler said earlier,