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FLOOR DEBATE

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work to get us where we need to be. I doubt that an income tax increase would be large enough with the agreement of at least 24 other people to fill the gap that we're facing. Everybody knows that this bill and the committee amendment is not going to do nearly as much good for us as the amendment that would raise 7 cents, instead of 10 cents, or add 7 cents. By the time we get to Select File, a lot of things will begin to simmer down to what we call "low gravy." We are going to have to make certain decisions one way or the other, and to put it off by saying we'll just push this bill over there in the form it's in now and hope that something happens is not going to work, because if it gets over there in the present form, and we get on it say a week from now, the only difference is that we'll be having the same arguments a week from now that we're having today. What then will be suggested? That we move it on over to Final Reading because we can bring it back? All we will be doing is delaying without accomplishing anything during the period of delay. I don't think it's good to have meetings just to decide to have a meeting. I do not think all of the time that we spent on this bill is going to have been spent wisely unless something comes out of it. If we adopt this amendment, we will have taken a step toward closing a gap that we ultimately must close completely or come back for a special session. Nothing that Senator Beutler said we ought to consider will be unavailable for consideration. If you don't take this amendment, it does not weaken my position as far as the income tax. Sometimes, however,...

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...we face circumstances that transcend our particular agenda or methodology for doing something. I believe we're at a point now where if there is any way that I can persuade enough of us to do something in the right direction, I have an obligation to do that. That's why that amendment is offered. It's why I'm supporting Senator Wehrbein's motion to reconsider. It takes 25 votes to reconsider, then 25 votes to adopt the amendment. I hope that we can pick up those 8 votes, or whatever the number shy the amendment happened to have been.