

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

March 30, 2004 LB 1083, 1089

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would you vote for...would you vote for any form of revenue increase?

SENATOR REDFIELD: I did vote \$1.10, and that would have balanced it, as the proposal came out.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, that's not a revenue increase, Senator. That's a \$100 million cut to state aid to education.

SENATOR REDFIELD: It is a tax increase to our public, so that is a revenue increase in that sense.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I'm speaking of it in terms of the state budget. Well, with regard to the Governor's new spending programs, are you in support of those?

SENATOR REDFIELD: I believe that, considering the Forecasting Board's change, that we have to look very carefully and I don't believe that I can support all of those at this time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So you won't be supporting LB 1083, for example, the mental health bill.

SENATOR REDFIELD: I did support LB 1083 and I supported it because I believe that actually by shifting dollars into better use we will be able to deliver the product and not increase it that drastically.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator, I think the Governor is spending more money on that new initiative than all the money you're suggesting being cut here. And furthermore, I don't think there's any doubt but that we'll be spending significant...significantly increased monies in the coming years as the newspaper article recently revealed what the regions thought they needed to effectuate that program, as that was stated in the newspaper just a couple of days ago. I'm sure you saw it. Well, thank you. All I'm pointing out is it's...I'm not sure that it's...well, everything is fair, but I'm not sure it's appropriate to tie an idea to the Governor without looking totally at what the Governor is recommending and doing. The Governor is recommending, to his credit, a revenue increase.