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FLOOR DEBATE

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you know, where the high consumers of it will be paying the majority of the bill, and the low, low ones, will be paying very little, and everybody will be benefiting from it. So I want to...wanted to enter that into the record, and I'll return the balance of my time back to the Chair.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuthman. Senator Schrock, on the Beutler amendment, AM3474, to LB 1090.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would rise in opposition to the Beutler amendment. Agriculture uses a lot of electricity, but that's not the only reason I would...I would rise against it. I'm not sure how the low-income would play out. Senator Beutler, I assume if a farmer had a hail storm and his crop was hailed out and he didn't show any profit, would he still pay a surcharge on his electricity on his irrigation well?

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'm sorry, Senator,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...I was distracted. Would you go back and...

SENATOR SCHROCK: All right. You're exempting low income. Well, what about if a farmer is a low...has a hail storm come through and shows no income for the year? Does he get an exemption on his electric bill for his irrigation well?

SENATOR BEUTLER: No, Senator, in that regard it's like a sales tax. It's...

SENATOR SCHROCK: It's only residential then that would get that low-income exemption.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Oh, no. I mean if...for folks who lived in rural areas, they would be...in fact, there are more poor people in rural areas there are in urban areas and they would...

SENATOR SCHROCK: Well, I understand that, but I'm talking about...