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FLOOR DEBATE

April 1, 2004 LB 1090

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, to open.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'm not going to take the time that I have to open because I've already explained to you that this substitute amendment is, in fact, the sales tax amendment that I've just described to you and that you've been discussing, and that I hope you'll continue to discuss. It is also, to the best of my knowledge, and, Senator Wehrbein, you can correct me on this because you were more closely involved, but this is basically the proposition that the Governor had endorsed. So the one advantage...one of the advantage of this particular solution, as we know, the Governor is going to sign it if it goes his way, so I would just mention that. Beyond that, something that I intend to do personally today, and if this is offensive to you, please let me know, but I feel like yesterday we had broad and deep philosophic discussion about all of these different options and so I'm going to try, after a reasonable amount of debate, to call the question, whether I'm in favor of what's happening or not, to kind of move us along to a solution, because I really...I think...I think we probably all feel that we understand the factors involved here pretty well now and we just have to come to grips with ourselves and see what each one of us is willing to do. So I will be, after three or four speakers on each side, trying to encourage you to make a decision and move on to the next part of whatever we need to decide. With that, I would turn the debate back to the floor, Senator Cudaback. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on AM3521 to LB 1090. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Beutler amendment, Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senators Schimek, Smith, Stuhr, Chambers, Hartnett, Bourne, Cunningham, and Beutler. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. First of all, I want to talk a little bit about the low-level nuclear waste lawsuit. Senator Brashear laid out yesterday very well the...what he perceived, and I totally agree, the need for us to meet our responsibility in starting to raise the money for the low-level nuclear waste lawsuit. And I have the transcript