

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 1, 2004 LB 1090

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Next, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, the next amendment I have, Senator Janssen, AM3512. (Legislative Journal page 1415.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Janssen, you are open to open...you are recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. I'll try to open my opening here on my amendment. This is a simple amendment. We've heard three different areas where we believe we could fund the judgment that's going to come before us, eventually. Who knows when? But this would take...put a 3 percent surcharge on electrical bills, and that would run for...I think it's about 15 months. And \$51 million from the 5 percent increase in income tax; that would run for a year. And \$61 million from a quarter-cent increase in the state sales tax, and that would run also for a year. And that would bring you up to \$158 million. You know, we've heard all three of these mentioned and I thought, well, why not put them all together and see what the body...how the body feels about that, and I'm sure there is going to be plenty of discussion. There seems to be no consensus for one solution on this at a time. This is a way to spread the cost out amongst the three areas that I mentioned. You know, I've not liked the sales tax, but it's the only...it's only...it's a quarter of a percent and it's only for one year. So I, you know, if we're going to be faced with a judgment, I guess, in my opinion anyway, we should probably have something in place. Now...and I give this to you as another option to do with what you'd like to do, and I'm sure that there will be amendments to this measure also. So with that, I'll end my opening. It's a very simple, simple solution, but I'm sure it's going to be scrutinized like everything else, so have at it.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Mr. Clerk, is there an amendment?

CLERK: Mr. President, Madam President, excuse me, Senator Beutler would move to amend the Janssen amendment with AM3528. (Legislative Journal page 1431.)