

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

April 2, 2004

LB 1090

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Schimek, on the advancement.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President and members. Senator Chambers, I think I heard Senator Hudkins say that she would be in favor of a combination. I don't think she was necessarily zeroing in on one tax. But I see she has her light on, and I'll let her defend herself. The reason I put my light back on was to maybe engage in a discussion with either Senator Beutler or Senator Janssen or both. If I might, I'd like to ask Senator Beutler a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, would you respond?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Senator Beutler, yesterday there was a ruling that a particular amendment had to be reconsidered rather than voted on as adopted to the main amendment. And at that point, I think it probably should have been challenged--that's my opinion--because we weren't doing exactly the same thing at that point. But nevertheless, nobody challenged it, and it went by the board. At that point, I think the discussion was that we would rewrite the entire amendment and perhaps substitute it from the remaining amend...for the remaining amendment that was on the board. Or at least something was trying...we were trying to devise something to allow us to come back to the combination again. Can you tell me what happened after we left here yesterday afternoon, why we decided not to at least take a vote on that concept?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I have to speak from my own personal situation. And I'll tell you honestly what took the heart out of me. I woke up this morning, and I thought, you know, we really need to run this. There are people interested. It's close enough. It has the sales tax in it, which the Governor supports; it has income tax, but it wouldn't be all of it. So the amendment was prepared. I filed it. And then I started to walk around and talk to people. And a couple of my Republican friends said, the Governor's people are calling on this. They