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FLOOR DEBATE

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legislative resolution, but I know that Senator Bromm worked very hard on an issue, won the battle and, unfortunately, the courts decided to throw that out. But ultimately the courts have now stated that LB 827 was appropriate, or certainly at the discretion of the state, and it bothers me when a political subdivision is trying to run this issue. That bothers me extremely, and I am all about good public policy. And kind of teased Senator Baker over the last vote, or maybe not the last vote but certainly the last one of great import here today, and we differed on that, but on this issue I have to say that this is headed down the right track. I don't think it's appropriate when a political subdivision that enjoys tax breaks...actually, no taxes whatsoever. If you want to talk about fair tax policy and the advantages given through tax incentives and what have you, this discussion is relevant. Regardless of the size of a political subdivision, this issue is relevant. And when I hear about the bickering and the territory battles with LES and Norris, that speaks to a larger issue. And I hope that we can get to the bottom of this. It will have to take place next year, I understand that, but I appreciate the fact that we can have a little bit of discussion here. And Senator Beutler has been a bit recalcitrant on the whole issue, but that's certainly his prerogative. And maybe he gave Senator Baker several passes today, but the fact is we need to talk about this issue. And I...it's...I mean, from a very politically selfish standpoint, it's unfortunate that we have to do again what we've already done because of the courts. I wish that we could...we could do it a little more easily, but if it takes a battle, that's what will need to happen, because the efforts contained and the intent contained in LR 400 and the issues contained in LB 827 of a few years ago have merit and I hope that we can ultimately enact those. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Bourne, followed by Senator Bromm, Baker, and Chambers.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President. Members, I'll be brief because Senator Baker has indicated he's going to pull this. Had he not said that I would certainly support the bracket motion and most of Senator Beutler's amendments, because I personally find this, this resolution, offensive. To say that