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FLOOR DEBATE

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 LR 8

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, it could...it always...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Members of the Legislature, I'm going to say again, first of all, a tax, is a tax, is a tax. I've always said that. Whenever the government takes money from you and a sanction will be imposed if you don't give it up, it's a tax. They can call it a fee, a surtax, whatever they want to. It is a tax, and these euphemisms are designed to take away the political sting of voting to increase a tax. I have voted for increases in fees, which I would acknowledge were taxes at the time. I've agreed to vote for the increase in taxes, which were called taxes. I even voted to increase a cigarette tax after having said on this floor I will not do it, voted to increase some sales taxes, after saying I will not vote to increase the sales tax, because I had been persuaded that the plight of the state was such, with its revenues, its overall fiscal ill health, that taxes had to be increased and I voted to increase them. The Governor, who vetoed that bill, and we overrode the veto, came back this session and did not offer in his budget to take that money and give it back to the people, but he budgeted, with those increased tax revenues in mind, to have it both ways. I did not vote for those tax increases to help a Governor. I did not vote for tax increases to make money available to give away to these big companies, and I will not vote for Senator Beutler's amendment which would make it easier for those abominable bills which will be added to one bill which is an abomination, multiplied several times, that will be presented to us to give money away to these big businesses. There are people who cannot afford medical care. There are people who have trouble paying their utilities, ordinary everyday Nebraskans. I was talking to you all, when I was discussing Senator Schrock's LR 8CA, about the constitutional convention to draft the U.S. Constitution. The elitists were there. They wanted to build a system where the elitists would rule and what they referred to as the yeoman would do the voting and the drudge work. They'd do the work; the elitists rule. Nebraska has one of the lowest wage levels in the country. That's one of the reasons we're told that unemployment...