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LB 542

I would be happy to answer any questions, or ask for its adoption. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Burling. You've heard the opening on AM1099, an amendment to the Revenue Committee amendments, AM0932. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, in looking at the fiscal note, there is some discussion of how much it would cost if you were going to do a study worthy of the name. That could run from \$350,000 to \$500,000. Now, you get what you pay for. That's what people say. But I'd rather put it the other way: You don't get more than what you pay for. Sometimes you don't get what you pay for. So when you jerry-build a committee and there's nobody with any particular expertise, you've got people stumbling and fumbling around, and everybody feels, once again, that something is being done. But if you're talking about trying to create an intelligent, factual, sound basis on which to erect a tax policy, you should not simply have people from the Legislature with no particular expertise. That kind of expertise is not even developed by serving on one of these committees that bears a certain name and has a certain jurisdictional territory. People can mean well. People can try to learn on the fly while participating in one of these task forces. I would like to ask Senator Burling a question or two.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Burling, would you yield to a question from Senator Chambers?

SENATOR BURLING: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Burling, do you feel that the structure that you've put together in this bill is the best one to get the kind of information you're trying to develop? Or could a study of the kind similar to that so-called Syracuse University Study do a better job, a more professional job?

SENATOR BURLING: The Syracuse Study was an academic study, and