

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

May 6, 2005

LB 542

page 1404.) The vote is 32 ayes, 10 nays on the adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. AM1228 is adopted. The call is raised. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Jensen would move to amend with AM1448. (Legislative Journal page 1379.)

PRESIDENT SHEEHY: Thank you. Senator Jensen, you're recognized to open on AM1448.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature. In the original bill, as presented by Senator Burling, and in his list of individuals, he had on page 3 one representative from the health sector appointed from the list of names submitted by the Health and Human Services Committee, and the Revenue Committee chose not to bring that forward. My amendment would just simply add that one representative from the healthcare sector, appointed by the Governor. Now if we're going to have a study of taxes and leave out healthcare as part of that, I think would be incorrect. You've got to remember it's 36 percent of the state budget, and it would just seem to me that if we're going to look at taxes, if we're going to look at where expenses come from and how money is disbursed, that certainly that we should add somebody from the health sector. I'm not saying who that should be, whether it be somebody from the hospital association, somebody from the nursing home healthcare association, or a physician, or perhaps an administrator. I'd let the Governor decide upon that. But I just think that this is too important an area to not have on the committee. I also would echo the thoughts of Senator Beutler, that it would seem to me, and I would certainly consider that on Select File, that somebody, if not the Chairman from the Revenue Committee, at least somebody from the Revenue Committee would be part of this. They do have the numbers; they've done studies on this before. If you have attended the symposium and had the Revenue Committee come forward with some of their data, it's certainly, and what George Kilpatrick has certainly presented, it's always been very enlightening to me. And so it would seem to me that someone...and using the Revenue Committee, would be