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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. On with discussion. Senator Redfield, followed by Senators Synowiecki, Mines, Bourne, and Engel. Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the body. We are here to represent the taxpayers. I think we have to keep that in mind. And I have always been known for being fiscally conservative. And I observed to my colleagues that most of us lay claim to that label. And yet, it doesn't seem that at any one time enough of us are fiscally conservative at the same time to prevent a budget from growing. And I don't believe that we are being fair to the taxpayers, when we have asked them to sacrifice, we've asked the cities to sacrifice. I told my city no, twice today...three times today, about coming back for more aid for cities. We've told counties no, we've told universities no, we've told our K through 12 schools no, and we've told people they can't have any tax relief. We've asked our agencies and our staff to nickel and dime and get by. Senator Byars was talking about some people. I had a phone call this morning from a constituent very concerned about why I had voted against Senator Byars' amendment the first time, people that were earning \$15,000 a year. We're talking about bringing jobs here, and we're talking about a job that already is here, a very important job, to take care of some very needy people, on behalf of the state. And we weren't willing to give them an extra 1 percent. And I told him, no, we couldn't, because we couldn't afford it. One percent on somebody making \$15,000 a year. I want to thank Senator Beutler for giving us a second chance to look at this, and see if in fact this is what we want to go back home and tell our constituents we did with the state budget, bearing in mind what we have done over the last three years in cutting budgets to the bone, in asking our staff to do without, in asking our cities and our schools to do without. Is this the most important thing we can do for the state? I hope that you'll take the opportunity to look at this a second time, and take a more measured approach. I think Senator Beutler is being more than fair in offering us a middle ground. Thank you, Senator Beutler, and thank you, Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator