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May 17, 2005 LB 500

going to hurt all the other retailers in the area. It's not a good situation. Yes, this would be a beautiful place, a great place, but who can't build something like that if they know that they're going to...and everything in that establishment is taxable. It's not like a grocery store where only nonedible items are taxed. Everything in that place is going to be taxable. So I'm supporting Senator Chambers' motion to reconsider and I think we all ought to sit back and just reconsider the slippery slope we're going down here. It's not a good situation, not at all. And I'll give the rest of my time to Senator Chambers.

SENATOR BAKER: Senator Chambers, would you like to use his time?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I would, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, how can you reduce the state's revenue stream and talk about high taxes when the one leads to the other? If these large business entities, despite what Senator Redfield says about somebody pays the taxes, when these large business entities are taking in money to give profit to their shareholders,...

SENATOR BAKER: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...how in the world do you get around recognizing that fewer people are going to have to pay more in taxes? So on the one hand you call yourself business friendly because you give away the state's revenue stream, as you call it, or revenue base. Then people have to pay high taxes. They've got to, to make up for what you're not requiring these others to pay, plus what you're giving to them. This bill is one of the worst in that series, and I really hope that it doesn't go any further. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Chambers and Senator Janssen. Senator Louden, you're recognized to speak.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Senator Baker and members of the Legislature. I haven't weighed in on this LB 500 yet. Personally, I...if any business wants to come in and make...set