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February 2, 2006 LB 75

body. I rise in support of the motion to suspend rules, because I believe that that's the proper procedure here. Clearly, Senator Kopplin is right--this is not germane to the underlying bill, LB 75, and Senator Beutler is following the proper procedure. I do support that. At the same time, I also want to speak to the underlying issue that he brings before us, and that is maximizing the use of funds for the public good, and I think that that is a common procedure. We invest our pension funds; we want to make sure that we follow the prudent investor rule, that we're not being foolhardy and leaving these funds at risk. But I do believe it's a worthy effort; I believe it's something that we need to discuss and decide whether, in fact, it's worth changing our constitution for. I will tell you that I'm always reluctant to change the constitution. Unfortunately, there is language in the constitution currently that would prohibit this practice, and that's why Senator Beutler is here before us with this proposal. So I hope that you give him your attention and that we get to actually discussing the merits of his proposal, and also consider very, very carefully the language that we would be proposing, because we are talking about the constitution. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. Senator Foley, followed by Senator Price.

SENATOR FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. President. Just to echo the comments that have already been offered by Senator Redfield, yes, Senator Beutler is following the proper procedures here, because we do need to suspend the germaneness rule to bring this constitutional language into LB 75. So he's following the right procedures. We ought to support this. This is just good public policy. Senator Beutler may be in need of more speaking time; I'm not sure. If he'd like my time, he's welcome to it, Mr. President. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Foley, thank you for the time. Let me tell you how I think this is going to help a number of other communities eventually. When we were drafting this, we had several alternatives, and some suggested, well, we just make it