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LB 542

of ag land? Are they going to say they should pay more taxes?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Probably not. I don't know that anybody will say they should pay more.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you're going to have these senators put in the midst of special interest groups, none of which want to pay taxes, informing them as to what the tax policy of the state ought to be?

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, you know, I have thought about this a lot, Senator Chambers, and over the years, I have never had outside advice tell me positively that we should raise taxes. It's always been left up to my judgment, and I see no reason of that to change. You won't...you don't want me to get started on that, because I can give a 30-minute dissertation on that. But I think ultimately the buck stops on this body, and we have to learn to sort the wheat from the chaff, if you will. And I think this...that's no different than it is now. But no one, eventually, is going to tell us how we should vote, if we're really looking out for the good of the state and its people. And when we do that, we have to go beyond and say, just like we've done in past times, we've raised taxes when no one wanted to do it. We've...we're going to lower some taxes, which, obviously, most people want. But most people never will voluntarily tell you they should be taxed, so that's up to us to make our best judgment when it's...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator. Senator Burling. Senator Burling, on FA542.

SENATOR BURLING: Thank you, Mr. President. Some of the things that we discussed on General File I'll just remind the body of, and that is that, as already been mentioned, and I appreciate those that have spoken on this issue, it's already been mention that it appears we have 21 new senators next year. And the Revenue Committee is bombarded with bills and issues of...to change in some way our tax code and our tax policy. And I believe a commission like this, which we haven't tried before,