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SENATOR BROWN: ...over the period. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: Once again, I would urge you to look at the things that we have made decisions about that we wish to encourage. We very possibly wish to encourage competition, apparently, by virtue of exempting them. And I would say that providing housing for people of low or low/moderate incomes is as meritorious, if not more so, than some of the things that we provide exemptions for currently. Could I ask how many lights there are on?

SENATOR CUDABACK: There are two lights, Senator Brown.

SENATOR BROWN: Okay. I'll wait, then, to...until those people have spoken. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Further discussion. Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Chambers. Followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I don't wish to speak directly to this particular amendment, but my sense of it is, it's going to be withdrawn. But I think one of the things that was on the mind of the Appropriations Committee and myself, certainly, in terms of spending, and which should also be on your minds in terms of cutting revenues down, is what's happening at the federal level right now. As you know, the federal government has had to raise tremendously the debt level at the federal level. We're as close to a financial crisis as we've had in many, many years. The President's budget has suggested enormous cutbacks to the state budgets. That means there will be all kinds of programs, starting next year, which will no longer be funded by the federal government or will not be funded at the same percentage level. And we're talking at least $25 million of decreased revenues that we know about. And depending on how budget negotiations go at the federal level, there may be $25 million to $50 million more. So not only do you need to look at the internal facts in determining whether this package is doable or not, but people like Senator