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has expressed his opposition and explained the rationale of his committee for rejecting your proposal, to the point of not even letting the bill come out for discussion. And he said words to the effect that they could not predict where this might lead. That's all I'll say at this point. But the next time I'm recognized I'll carry that a bit further. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Further discussion. Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. I think...and I certainly appreciate the respect of the Chairman of the Revenue Committee, and the respect of my colleague Senator Chambers, relative to this issue. The thing that I think differentiates this from the slippery slope that Senator Landis is basically talking about, and I think that the committee talked about, was this isn't that slippery slope because of two very important reasons. These providers have not paid, are not paying sales tax now. We're not asking for anything new. We're just asking you to put it in statute to do what has been the practice. If we look at a slippery slope, we're looking primarily at, well, let's see, this is somebody, whether it's a building contractor or whether it's a clothing salesperson, that is collecting sales tax on...in a situation now, and we're asking to take them out of the realm of collecting sales tax. This isn't happening here. This slippery slope is not asking to take away something that isn't already happening. And the same situation--we aren't, in general circumstances, funding with state dollars the amount of sales and income tax that the average homeowner who has an addition built on their home or a condominium owner or an apartment complex owner now. They had...they were paying sales tax, the people who build them, and we...they weren't paying any. We put sales tax on to manage a budget issue, and now we're asking to take it off. This is totally and completely different. It can't be classified as a slippery slope. We aren't collecting sales tax. Put it in statute to make sure that these providers of services that we reimburse with the other state dollars, just out of one pocket and into the other, put it in statute and make sure that we don't do that. This isn't good public policy, and if the Revenue Department is going