

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 22, 2006 LB 968

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Louden would move to amend this component of the committee amendments. (AM2817, Legislative Journal pages 1114-1116.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Louden, to open on your amendment.

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Cudaback?

SENATOR LOUDEN: Mr. President,...

SENATOR LANDIS: Point of...I'm sorry, point of...not privilege. Point of order, I guess it is.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You're recognized.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. I'll certainly yield to Senator Louden in a moment. I've looked at the amendment. I'm not sure it's germane. I'd like to raise a germaneness issue to this amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Louden, you have not had an opportunity to open on your amendment. The Chair will recognize you to open on your amendment. Then we will take up the...Senator Landis' germaneness issue. So you're recognized to open first.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President. This amendment is a means to lower property tax. LB 968 includes only modest changes in statutory provisions for property taxes. I do not believe that LB 968 and the provisions go far enough to make a real property tax relief. This amendment would make a significant difference in property taxes by putting additional state funds into aid to community college. As you know, the community college levy cap for operations is 6 cents per \$100 of valuation. The cap may be exceeded under certain circumstances. For 2005 and '06, all but one community college district exceeded the 6 cent levy for operations. Central is 7.2; Mid-Plains is 7.7; Northeast is 7.9; Southeast is 6.4; and Western is at 9.8. If these were to go down to the 6 cent property tax reduction, it would be significant in those districts. The Fiscal Office has indicated that indeed the