

Thank you, Senators, for allowing me this opportunity. I knew I wasn't going to get the chance to speak and tell it like it is if I didn't put this amendment up here. I will withdraw it now. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Back to the speaking order. Senator Hefner, then Senator Beutler.

SENATOR HEFNER: Call the question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been asked. Do I see five hands? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, this is a major proposition and there has been very little debate on it. I would ask that you not accept the motion since there has not been a full and fair debate.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Well, let's see, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, I would think there would be enough debate and they have been on both sides, so I would think there would be enough, eleven. No, she withdrew it, so we are back on the Beutler amendment. I will put the question to you. Do I see five hands to cease debate? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Three are excused now. You are voting to cease debate. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 8 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has ceased. Senator Beutler, would you like to close, please.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, once again, what this package in total allows you to do is to avoid a tax increase and to have a reserve in excess of the statutory 3 percent. Once again, it contains four items. Each one of those four items demands a sacrifice from one interest or another. Senator DeCamp's representation to the rural senators that this package was not in their favor is a total misrepresentation and you really should be angry with him because if you understood the facts, you would see that he is playing to your ignorance. And others are playing to fear and the worst qualities in us all. The package contains cuts in state