

SENATOR WESELY: ...but we have to understand that it is an important issue. Now one of the things we recognize in this body and in this state is that majority rules but there are minority rights that are protected and the majority obviously in this Legislature has opposed the efforts to reinstate these commissions. But that minority of Senators, and who knows, maybe today it will be a majority, I doubt it, but if that minority of Senators does not recognize it as having a legitimate claim and concern here, then we haven't really recognized our heritage in this state which has been to recognize majority rights, majority rule, but minority rights. The minority rights are needing to be protected in the process here and they are trying to be protected through this amendment that these people are a minority and they have a right to have representation and assistance and we are asking you as a minority of Senators perhaps, perhaps not a majority, that you recognize our rights to make this amendment and hopefully you can support us to help with this concern of ours because by doing that we all gain strength, and unity, and harmony, and I think that is very important.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, please.

SENATOR LAMB: (No response.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Do you know this has been a terrific session? We have worked hard. We have done some fine things. We are \$600,000 away of everybody walking home real proud of this session. This is an act of magnanimity. We have had a desire in this body to hold the tax rates and we have done it. You have gone through the budget and year in and year out we have talked about trying to wade in there and do some help and have some oversight and we have done it, and in all of the deep divisions between us, the only thing that now separates us on this day is this amendment, and we can go back to our constituencies with a \$830 million budget that is lean and tough, but at the same time retains a sense of compassion. And I would call upon you for your sense of magnanimity, there is no reason to have a scorched earth budget and this amendment is an appropriate thing to do to heal the differences between us so that we can all be proud of the budget that we have just completed and the hard