

I don't expect to come down here and pass any legislation that favors the very large farmer or the very large businessman. I'm looking for help for the average person up and down the street. I'm going to offer an amendment for the 20 percent and the \$400 cap. I'm honest with you. I really don't care if you pass it or not. I will vote probably against the bill when it is finished. For the average person, by tax, it costs \$67 a year for them for 1 percent sales tax. On top of that we will average the average rural person, add another \$186 for sales tax. As you can see we are up to \$253 in additional tax for that 1 cent sales tax. All we are doing is putting it from one finger to the other finger. Some may gain \$12, some may lose \$12, some may gain \$58. All right let's go back to the original \$1,000 tax bill for the average person. That is \$200 relief by my bill, and \$250 by John's bill. I can't see any reason for us to be down here dickering and arguing back and forth on taxes when we are really not doing anything except going from finger to finger. I wonder how many really realize also...I think the state average...in my county \$55,000 is the average residential property, statewide I think someone mentioned the other day \$39,000, let's say \$40,000. I think most of you know that there are homestead exemptions that also apply. One would have to have \$8,400 a year adjusted gross income, that is over and above social security and so on, before they would be paying any property tax. There is a \$35,000 homestead exemption. It goes back, in smaller increments, clear up to \$10,400. I want to be fair. To me it is the working person, up and down the street, that needs this tax break. We all appreciate it. I'm like Gary. I could gain considerably on...I don't have my property split up that way, but I guess sometimes a person could. I'm against that favored relief for the very large property tax owner. I am offering this amendment, the 20 percent and the \$400 tax break, otherwise I will try to kill the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Lamb is next, but may I introduce some guests of Senator Hartnett, under the south balcony. They are Richard and Pam James of Bellevue, Nebraska. Richard is a City Councilman in Bellevue. Would you please stand and be recognized. Thank you. While the Legislature is in session and capable of transacting business, I propose to sign, and do sign LB 36, LB 89, LB 315 and LB 353, and LB 486. (See page 1106 of the Legislative Journal.) Senator Lamb. Thank you.