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LB 671

winery industry because other states will follow suit and they will charge what we would consider to be a prohibitive fee for the right to ship into some other state. Well, other states have done what Nebraska is...what Senator Janssen is now suggesting that Nebraska do. It is true that fees vary widely. Nebraska's would not be the highest fee in that group of states, nor would it be the lowest. Whether it will be cost prohibitive for anybody, I can't suggest that, but it isn't the highest nor is it the lowest fee. If the fee is an issue, I would suggest that we can come back to that issue at another time. Occasionally we do adjust fees when we either determine that they are too high or too low. The other side that has opposed this issue seems to be people who are apparently collectors or connoisseurs of very select wines. Now, presumably, they would voluntarily pay the taxes under the mechanism that Senator Janssen passed last year. But, after checking, as Senator Janssen has, with the Department of Revenue, we find that no one has paid their taxes voluntarily. Is that a surprise to any of us? No one has paid the tax voluntarily when given the opportunity with a law that we passed last year. Well, if there aren't going to be volunteers, perhaps we need to put some enforcement mechanism into place and that's what LB 671 represents and that apparently is what has upset some folks. Those folks who didn't want to pay voluntarily are upset because they have figured out that this means that the tax will, indeed, be collected. Now, what is the sense of having a tax system if you aren't going to collect the tax? I think we ought to do...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...as Senator Janssen suggests and collect the tax, and I hope you vote with him and me to override the Governor's veto of LB 671.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Janssen, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. This won't take long. I believe everyone knows where they're at. I just hope that they realize the importance of this. We are being made a laughing stock of throughout the rest of the