

March 28, 1979

LB 103

January 1st, 1978 or '79.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Two minutes.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I think you'll find very few. It would be interesting if you could go back and check the computer printout and find out where those engines were on those days. I think there had to be some within the state. There are other portions of the railroad property that are not at the present time being assessed for tax purposes, and Senator Rumery and Senator Cullan can point that out to you. And it should be, and it ought to be. But my reason for opposing this bill is this, that if we don't...if we pass the bill now, there will be a feeling that we've straightened the thing out, when in fact we have not. I know that Senator Cullan has the ability to go back and review this again, and come up with some assistance from the Board of Equalization so that the taxes are somewhere in line with what everybody else pays. I am not the one who says soak big business. I am saying that every business has to pay taxes, and there is no reason why one business should be treated differently than all the rest. As Senator Haberman pointed out, you wonder why you weren't besieged by the railroad lobbyists in opposition to the bill. They have agreed to pay more taxes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well how magnanimous of them...how gracious they are...public spirited citizens, no doubt. Well, I'll tell you something, every person in this body, every citizen in this state would do it on the same basis if they could march in and say, I'm self assessing myself, here's what I can afford based upon my income and my earnings, and this is what you got, take it or leave it. I think that it's time to look at the whole picture, give the Board of Equalization the staff and the help they need, give Senator Cullan and Senator Newell some help, and turn them loose, and next year we'll have a bill that will do what needs to be done in the way it ought to be done, and it will do it in the right way.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I ask that you support the motion to indefinitely postpone the bill.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Rumery...excuse me, Senator Kremer,