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body will continue to ignore the fact that tax on food cannot be justified. There is only one way to make up this tax and that is through a fair equitable tax which is to increase the sales tax, the income tax and the corporate tax to take care of the services provided by cities and states and other subdivisions of government. But we, as a body, have a tendency to know the price of everything and the value of nothing and so we ignore it by saying we are going to give a rebate but you know as well as I do that not everyone requests a rebate. They certainly do not and why do we want to add to the bureaucracy of this state when we send a tax in here, the state sends it back. To me it is a little bit like that internal revenue tax. You play a game every year with the federal government to see whether you can win or lose and the federal government spends billions of dollars returning the tax to you that you have sent to them some times in the past. There must be a simpler way to take taxes from people to utilize it and cut out a lot of the red tape and bureaucracy which we constantly find around us. I believe that this sales tax should be done away with today. This is one way you can provide relief to people, particularly the older, those on fixed incomes and those who are disabled.

PRESIDENT: One minute, Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Because their utilities are constantly increasing and they have no other recourse. This is one way in which you, if you really have the heart and the desire, that you can really help them because food is not going to get any cheaper and you know that as well as I do. It is going to become more expensive and I am talking about basic foods, nothing very exotic. Therefore, I would ask that this body make one decision which I believe would be the most fair and most correct. That is to repeal the tax on food and one last shot. I don't know how many of you in your campaigning have ran against the tax on food but I have each and every time and each and every time before people they will agree with you that this is a tax that should be abolished. It is a campaign commitment, not just a promise and always remember the former Governor who ran on us each time. Do away with the sales tax. That Governor never did see fit to do it simply because of one reason. Because it generated revenue for the state treasury that was needed to carry on our frugal budget. I suggest to you that campaign promise should become a commitment and many of us made that commitment and I am going to vote for 16.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Merz.

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