

April 20, 1979

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with the troops that are here. My good golfing partner, Dan Lynch is here overseeing this and others from the counties but I want to do a historical reminder to you and it reminds me of my favorite cartoon and it reminds me of Lucy promising to hold the football and Charlie is going to kick it and just as he gets up there why, Lucy yanks it away and he falls down. That is not the interesting part of the story. The interesting part of that story is that happens every year and Charlie keeps falling for it. We have got a serious problem now in terms of the fact that we want to delay decisions. As you recall the history of personal property tax and I reread that just last night. The idea was, we will never relieve, we will never relieve the personal property taxpayer of his responsibility. We will do this 12½% at a time, building up the state's encumbrance and then of course we decided at the right time we would relieve it all. We have got a mess on our hands because of that. We are the ones that are most critical of the national government about expenses and about encumbered obligations. Let's not kid ourselves. In four years, this bill is \$10,000,000 plus the inflationary factors and according to Dr. McLaughlin last night who was at a table with me, medical costs are rising about 15.1% for the first three months of this year. If that trend holds true, that is a 60% increase over the next four years and it is going to be \$15,000,000. \$15,000,000 is a little more than 1% on the income tax. If we are going to do anything, let's do it now. My favorite T.V. commercial is the guy out there and he is telling them that they better put the oil in or they better fix their car now. It is pay me now or pay me later. You are not escaping anything with this simple easy device to get money. If I had been Senator Kahle I would have made it 1½% the first year or I would have made it 0% the first year so you don't have to spend any money now and balloon it at the end. Everybody likes to do bond issues this way. This is a balloon. If you really believe the counties have no responsibility in terms of this issue, then you ought to be man enough to stand up and say this is a bad situation and let's take it off. You are getting in the same trap that we are going to continue to be in in this state. These are not easy words for me to say. I am concerned about the cost the county picks up but I am also telling you that in two years from now, or in three years from now, or four years from now you are going to be talking about this particular item and you are going to find out it is not \$10,000,000 and five years from now it is not going to be \$10,000,000. I reread the personal property tax debate

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