

returned to people their rightful amount. Now what remains as a credit to the State of Nebraska in excess funds?

SENATOR NEWELL: That figure is \$30 million.

SENATOR KOCH: And that is the most recent figure?

SENATOR NEWELL: One second, Senator Koch, I have lost the thing. I think that is the credit. That is the credit, \$30 million. I think we collect fifty some so it is \$20 million, but I can get that more correctly in a minute as soon as I unravel this stuff on my desk.

SENATOR KOCH: The point that I want to make and I appreciate the figures. As usual we all have a different set from which we deal, and in my five years I have been here, this bothers me. That is the reason I would like to use computers that are accurate sometimes. No intent, Senator Carsten, that is a joke but everytime we get into the issue discussing sales tax or any other kinds of taxes for certain kinds of purposes we always deal with the Jesus factor and that is they just throw us out a bunch of figures and it has bothered me ever since I have been here where we are fifteen, to twenty, to thirty million dollars apart in what is accurate. It is difficult for me as a Senator to make a decision based upon in many cases it is a very tenuous situation. I would like to return every cent of tax back to the people on food because you know I do not favor tax on food in any conditions and I agree with what Senator Chambers said. I have watched people run for office and one of their big appeals to the public is we are going to repeal sales tax. I have said it and at least I am consistent. If I can't vote it out, I am going to try to return the amount that the people deserve in the terms of the credit and I know why we have some of that excess money is because we have people coming through this state who buy food and do deposit tax here and you will never get it all returned but our obligation is to return as much as we can in the fairest way we can and I am not sure if \$34 is the right figure. I have heard figures higher than that and I will be very honest with you gentlemen here. I have been very quiet this session on taxes and my own private motives. It is very easy for me to sit here and try to deposit in general fund the greatest amount of surplus that I can when hopefully we will make a giant stride forward to reduce the most hideous type of tax which is excessive property tax we use to finance the public schools. So that is my own position and it is easy for me to sit here and say the more dollars I get here in surplus, the more chance I have