

CLERK: Senator Beyer voting yes. Senator Abboud voting yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 8 nays to cease debate on the first portion of the committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate is ceased. The call is raised. We are back to...Senator Beutler, are you going to close on that? Oh, Senator Vard Johnson, was that your amendment?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes. Mr. Speaker, members of the body, since we are under call I guess I will take the opportunity to make certain that everybody knows what this vote is. This vote would put you on record for a one cent increase in the state sales tax with that one cent to be dedicated to property tax relief. That is what the vote would do. After we do that vote, if it passes, then we will go ahead and deal with the rest of the committee amendments, which I don't think are as substantial as this one is. Then we will go back and deal with this bill as to whether or not this bill is an ideal bill for...whether or not this is an ideal bill for this body to advance. But the truth of the matter is that...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Excuse me, Senator Johnson. Would you talk to your assistant there a second, please. Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Well, I am now finding out that the way the Senator has this divided is that we are dealing with the nonsubstantive portion of the amendment first, then we are going to deal with the increase of the sales tax a penny. I was under the misapprehension. I think everybody else talked under misapprehension as well.

SPEAKER NICHOL: We'll forgive you.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: That's right. Okay, but apparently we are going to vote on everything in the committee amendment except that portion which would increase the sales tax by one cent. The other material that is in the amendment, as Senator Vickers pointed out, the amendment breaks the tie, the historic tie between sales and income taxes. That was already broken with LB 282 which you advanced the other day to the Governor, he signed that bill, so that one is now