

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay. Senator Vard Johnson is next.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I think Senator Lamb was truly correct when he said that the Vickers amendment should be rejected. Each property tax relief concept that you are going to hear, which you will hear I guarantee that, you need to hear as an individual concept. All I am saying with LB 712, homestead exemptions are one form of very significant property tax relief. I want this body to say yes or no on homestead exemptions. I also want this body to be able to pinpoint the money for the homestead exemption program. I do. If this body fails to do that, then if we fund the homestead exemption program we take it out of income taxes, out of sales taxes, out of corporate income taxes, out of miscellaneous fees, etc., etc., etc. Okay? We just put it in the pot like every other thing. I am prepared to earmark or dedicate, in effect, a one cent sales tax to LB 712. I'm prepared to dedicate a one cent sales tax to LB 38 which is the Lamb proposal. I am prepared to dedicate a one cent sales tax to LB 397 which is the school boys proposal. And that is what I'm going to do. But if we simply get a Vickers amendment on a bill which says we are going to increase the sales tax by one cent and put that one cent in the property tax relief fund, and then later on some how and in some way this body begins to move itself to form a coalition as to how the money is to be distributed, I think we will be here until next December. I think you've got to do it a step at a time. You've got to say I'm going to put money here, out of the sales tax, behind this measure. That is what I would do. I would reject the Vickers amendment. I would keep your feet to the fire on the homestead exemption and increasing the sales tax for that purpose and that purpose only. Then if you reject it I'm going to take you to the next one, LB 38, same sales tax increase but for a little different purpose, ten percent across the board rebate. We'll talk the pros and cons of that. But I wouldn't just simply say we are going to increase the sales tax one cent and put it in a pot called the property tax relief fund, we are going to work out the terms of that pot later on. That is bad policy-making.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, then Senator Iabedz.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President, members, first of all, for